

'I am really sorry, but war's war'

Scripps Howard News Service

They are all awkward adolescence, with too-big feet and the chortling satisfaction boys find in cracking their knuckles.

They sit side by side in basement recliners, late into the night, munching Slim Jims and candy and occasionally swigging from a big bottle of Jack Daniel's.

They have put a video camera on a tripod to record this farewell to the world, one of several taped messages they will leave, starting weeks before their killing spree at Columbine High School.

They make their young mouths tough with dirty words. They smile over shared schoolboy memories, curse humankind, speak fondly of their parents and joke about the fun they might have as ghosts, making scary noises.

And they explain over and over why they want to kill as many people as they can.

It's exactly what the whole world already has heard.

Kids taunted them in day care, in elementary school, in middle school, in high school. Adults wouldn't let them strike back, to fight their tormenters, the way such disputes once were settled in schoolyards. So they gritted their teeth. And their rage grew.

"It's humanity," Dylan Klebold says, flipping an obscene gesture toward the camera. "Look at what you made," he tells the world.

"You're f—— s——, you humans, and you need to die," he says.

"Even us," Eric Harris adds. We need to die too. Of course, we'll f—— die killing you f—— s——."

They lean back in their recliners, Harris cradling a shotgun and Klebold playing with a toothpick. When they knock over a pop can, they worry, good children, that they have made a mess.

Later they model the black suits they will wear on "Judgment Day."

They talk about books they've liked and describe how they will kill classmates who have annoyed them most.

"When you find a body of one," Klebold says, looking straight into the camera, "he's a sophomore ... Look for his jaw. It won't be on his body."

Harris plans to scalp another boy.

They say they hope the afterlife — if there is one — is like spending eternity in Doom, the video game they love most. Harris says it would

be neat if the afterlife included getting to look at the world's mysteries, like the deepest part of the Pacific Ocean.

They sneer at life in the suburbs, rant obscenely at blacks and feminists and born-again Christians and jocks and people who wear Tommy Hilfiger clothes.

They mimic people they think are stupid, using squeaky, funny voices and funny faces.

"I just know I want to kill the f—— who f—— with me," Klebold says.

They talk about the bombs they will plant at their school.

"Tick, tick, tick, tick, tick," Harris says.

They laugh.

They expect to be famous, to have a cult of followers after they die. They have advice for whoever those kids might be.

"If you're going to go f—— psycho and kill a bunch of people like us ... do it right," Klebold says.

They expect tougher gun laws to be discussed because of them. Don't do it, they say; it will only create a black market in guns. "Putting more laws on won't change that," Klebold says.

Then Harris says, "Let's talk about our parents for a minute."

Klebold begins coldly. "It's my life," he says. "They gave it to me, I can do with it what I want. ... If they

don't like it, I'm sorry, but that's too bad."

Harris is gentler. "They might have made some mistakes that they weren't really aware of in their life with me, but they couldn't have helped it."

Both boys say again and again that their parents are great.

The Klebolds saw this tape last fall. They cried. The Harris parents know the tape exists but haven't seen it.

"It s—— to do this to them," Harris says. "They're going to go through hell once we're finished. They're never going to see the end of it."

Klebold promises his parents there was nothing they could have done to stop what will happen. "You can't understand what we feel; you can't understand no matter how much you think you can," he says.

Harris explains why he didn't spend more time with his family. "I didn't want to do any more bonding with them. It will be a lot easier on them if I haven't been around as much."

Klebold addresses all his relatives. "I'm sorry I have so much rage," he says.

He samples a mouthful of candy with a mouthful of whiskey.

Harris speaks lovingly of his mother then adds, "I really am sorry about all of this. But war's war."

Gift



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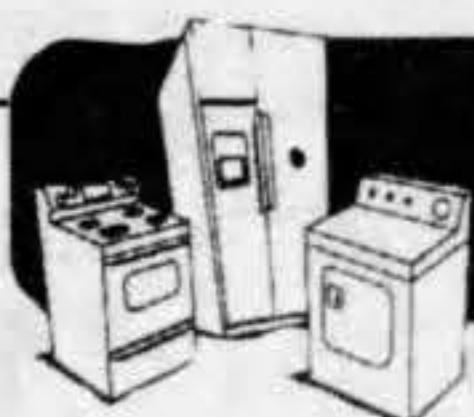
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—AP Photos

Eric Harris (left) and Dylan Klebold are shown in a still photo taken from a videotape made by a cafeteria surveillance camera

A CRIMINAL MIND

❑ Videos made by Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, the teens who went on a rampage at Columbine High School, reveal two youths who blames the world for their problems

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — Teen killers Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold had run out of people to hate by the time they entered Columbine High School armed for carnage, homemade videos reveal.

After insulting blacks, Christians, Jews, women, athletes, police and others, Harris is heard to exclaim on one tape, "I hate the (expletive) humans."

Klebold concurs. "It's humans that I hate."

A more detailed picture of Harris and Klebold emerged after Time magazine published a story on the videotapes, prompting authorities to allow other journalists to view them.

Their release angered parents of the victims, who said they had been promised they would be shown the tapes before they were publicly released.

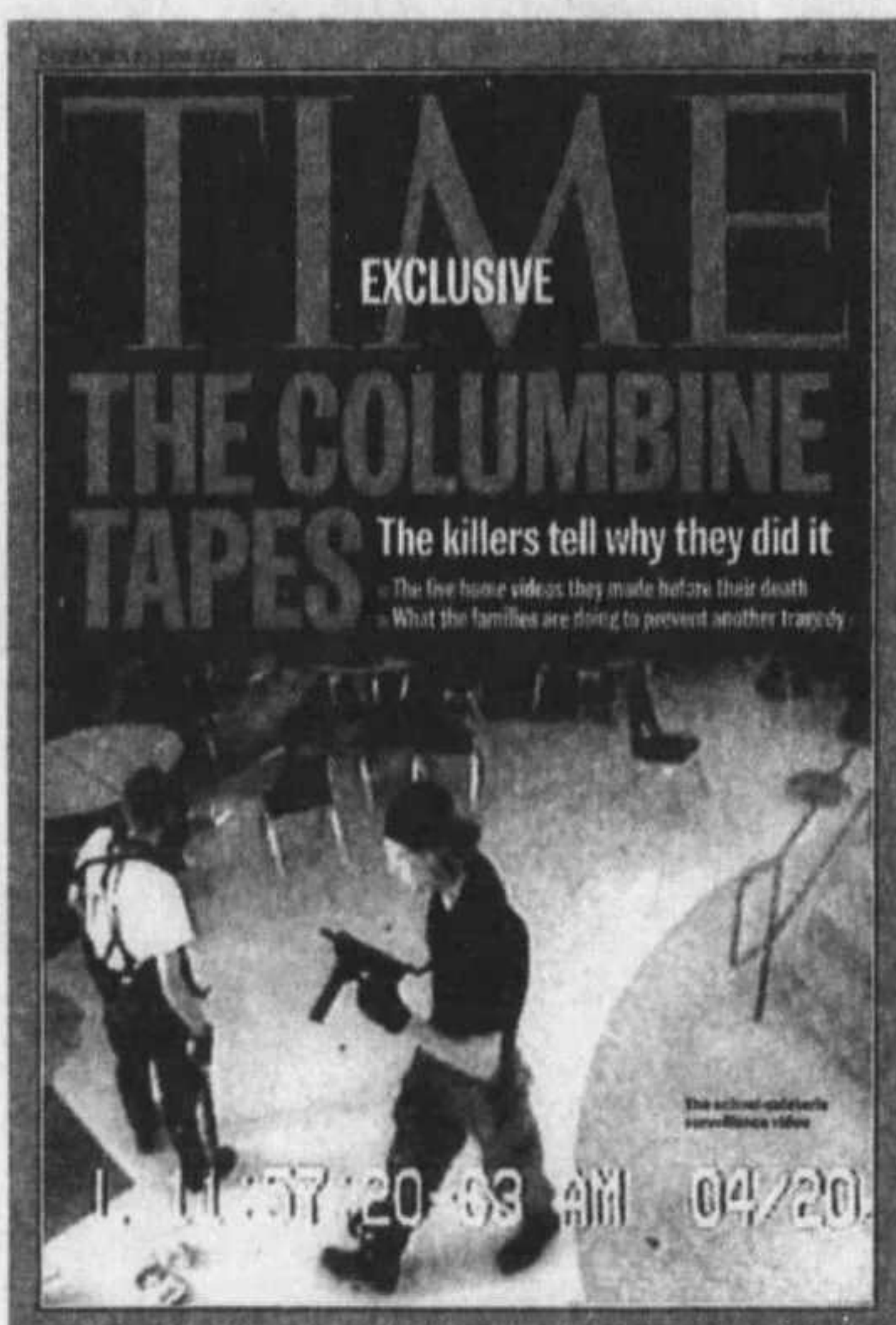
"This is just going to serve to re-illuminate all the feelings and pain that (parents) have already experienced," said Brad Bernall, whose daughter Cassie Bernall was killed in the April 20 attack.

"I'm really upset that someone didn't have the courtesy (to warn us)," said Connie Michalik, mother of Richard Castaldo, who was left paralyzed in the attack. "If anyone was going to see them, we had the right."

In the videos, Harris, 18, and Klebold, 17, detailed their plan which would eventually leave 12 students and a teacher dead. Both gunmen then committed suicide.

The pair filmed a dress rehearsal on one tape recorded at Klebold's home. He practised drawing a shotgun from inside a black trench coat. Harris told him he had to do it faster.

They laughed about haunting those left behind after their deaths.



Cover of Time magazine, Dec. 20

"I don't give a (expletive) about anybody. Otherwise I'd be more remorseful," said Harris.

"God doesn't exist," said Klebold at one point.

In two hours of telling their own story, the teens quote Shakespeare, make apparent references to the video game Doom, predict Hollywood directors would fight over their story and apologize to their loved ones.

"My parents couldn't have helped it. . . . My parents have been some of the best parents I've known," said Harris. "Don't arrest any of our friends or family. They didn't have a clue."

The teens bragged that previous school assaults were bush league and they weren't copy cats.

"We're the real McCoy," said Harris, with Klebold adding, "I know we are going to have a following."

Both talked of being treated as nerds by athletes and others.

Harris, an air force brat, said "the (expletive) government closed the bases down."

Each time he had to move, he said, "I am at the bottom of the ladder again."

Klebold said the pair would have sorted out their problems with their fists, as students had done for generations, "but if you touch anyone you are suspended."

Each spoke of their anger.

"I'm sorry I have so much rage but you put it in me," said Klebold.

Harris said he planned to blow one youth's face off and expected to receive the same treatment.

"I imagine I will be shot in the head by a (expletive) cop."

For Dale Todd, whose son Evan was wounded in the assault on Columbine, watching the tapes only triggered more questions: "It makes me realize that we need to look deeper into society's ills that we're creating kids like this."

"I don't give a (expletive) about anybody. Otherwise I'd be more remorseful."

— Eric Harris

"I know we are going to have a following. . . . I'm sorry I have so much rage but you put it in me."

— Eric Harris

Families view Columbine videos

Victims outraged after officials show tapes to magazine first

By Patrick O'Driscoll

Gannett News Service

GOLDEN, Colo. — In eyes-only screenings Monday, victims' families and news reporters viewed three hate-filled videotapes made by Columbine High School killers Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold in the month before their massacre April 20.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Department showed the controversial footage one day after Time magazine published a detailed cover story on the videos, based on its own private viewing two weeks ago. The department said it was "obligated to share this information" because the magazine violated a deal that it would not quote from or refer to the tapes. Time says it made no such promise when its reporter watched the nearly three hours of footage that the killers left behind.

Harris and Klebold, both seniors at the suburban school in Denver, committed suicide after killing 12 students and a teacher and wounding more than 20 others in the worst school massacre in U.S. history.

'Kill you all'

The tapes' release, less than two weeks before Christmas, outraged victims' families, who had been asking for months to view the tapes. They first learned of the contents in Time's account and an extensive story Monday in Denver's Rocky Mountain News, which had been granted a viewing Sunday after the magazine's version became public. Angry phone calls poured in to the sheriff's and district attorney's offices here in the government seat of Jefferson County.

The videos, made on more than a dozen occasions from March 15 to April 20, brim over with a chilling mix of juvenile humor, adolescent braggadocio and rage. Filmed mostly late at night in each of the teens' bedrooms, they are full of expletives and stark footage of the arsenal of guns, knives, ammunition and homemade bombs that the pair amassed before the bloody spree.

In long, rambling diatribes, the boys blamed numerous playmates and schoolmates who made fun of them and girlfriends who jilted them for pushing them to their horrific mission.

"They picked the wrong (expletive) people to (expletive) with," Harris, 18, said in the March 15 video.

"I'm going to kill you all," Klebold, 17, sneered in the same session,



The Associated Press

Randy, left, and Judy Brown leave the Jeffco Criminal Justice Center on Monday in Golden, Colo. The two had just viewed videotapes that Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold made prior to the April 20, 1999, shooting at Columbine High School.

'Two weeks before Christmas; is this the time to reopen Columbine?'

Bill Owens,
Colorado governor

pointing an imaginary gun at the camera in Harris' basement. Harris, meanwhile, swigged from a Jack Daniel's whiskey bottle and waved, pointed and caressed a sawed-off shotgun that he had named "Arlene" after a prominent character in the violent video game Doom, a favorite of the pair.

They videotaped dress rehearsals of donning their gear, trips to gather supplies, and a tour of Harris' bedroom, where an astonishing array of bombs, ammo and guns was loosely hidden.

The most chilling footage, though, was a 1-minute, 20-second message made just half an hour before the onslaught April 20.

"It's a half-hour before Judgment Day," Klebold said to the camera.

"I know my mom and dad will be in shock and disbelief. I can't help it,"

Harris added.

After bequeathing belongings to friends, the two, full of grim purpose, cut to close-ups. "That's it. Sorry. Goodbye," Harris said. "Goodbye," Klebold added.

Close calls

Eight families of dead or wounded students showed up Monday for a late afternoon screening. One requested a private viewing at a later date. The sheriff's office will give other opportunities to families who couldn't attend on such short notice.

Anyone who views the footage will find it shocking, not only for the language — virtually every sentence is replete with obscenities — but also for the cold and calculated plan to destroy their school.

They imagined Hollywood filmmakers immortalizing them, and suggested that only prominent directors such as Quentin Tarantino or Steven Spielberg could do them justice. They also expected to gain a cult following in death from like-minded individuals. "I know we're going to have followers," Klebold said at one point.

He urged them to "do it right and for the right (expletive) reasons — or you don't do it at all."

They bragged of their plans and

laughingly told of close calls when they were almost found out.

A gun store once phoned Harris' house to say that the "clips" he had ordered — quick-load magazines that hold multiple cartridges — had arrived. His father answered the call but didn't catch on.

Another time, Klebold's parents found him in his black leather trench coat, barely concealing a full-sized shotgun beneath its folds.

As the reporters' screening ended, the parents of Brooks Brown, a close friend and schoolmate of Klebold, stood up in the crowd. "Why don't you wait until after Christmas? What does this serve?" Randy Brown angrily exhorted the journalists.

Outside, his wife, Judy, choked back tears as she explained why they attended the showing. "To see what we had to see, to help us through this," she told reporters. Judy Brown said the footage of Klebold, with whom her son had grown up, "was very hard to watch. I loved Dylan."

For more than a year before the massacre, the Browns had complained to the sheriff's department about Harris' violent threats against their son and frightening writings on the Internet.

Joking, sneering and cursing to the last, the pair blamed years of taunting by playmates and schoolmates, rejections by girlfriends and other real or perceived snubs by society for the seething, pent-up rage that literally exploded in Columbine's halls.

In a somber, 12-minute monologue to the camera on April 12, Harris also said there was "nothing anyone could have done to prevent this. No one is to blame except me or voDKa," the nickname that Klebold took from his favorite alcoholic beverage.

"Don't treat my parents badly or my brother," Harris said. "They were the best parents I could have possibly had."

However, as word of the tapes' content circulated Sunday and Monday, those in the Columbine community were stunned that the boys' bomb-making and amassing of weapons in their bedrooms could have gone on without their parents' knowledge.

Cafeteria footage

A separate tape release for broadcast showed about 40 minutes of silent, eerie footage from four remote security cameras in the school cafeteria, which Harris and Klebold had intended to blow up with two large bombs made from propane canisters for barbecue grills. With smoke from bombs and gunshots wafting into the room, hundreds of students scrambled for safety as the cameras clicked off different views at three-second intervals.

The tapes were meant to be their final word, to all those who had picked on them over the years, and to everyone who would come up with a theory about their inner demons. It is clear listening to them that Harris and Klebold were not just having trouble with what their counselors called “anger management.” They fed the anger, fueled it, so the fury could take hold, because they knew they would need it to do what they had set out to do. “More rage. More rage,” Harris says. “Keep building it on,” he says, motioning with his hands for emphasis.

Harris recalls how he moved around so much with his military family and always had to start over, “at the bottom of the ladder.” People continually made fun of him—“my face, my hair, my shirts.” As for Klebold, “If you could see all the anger I’ve stored over the past four f___ing years...” he says. His brother Byron was popular and athletic and constantly “ripped” on him, as did the brother’s friends. Except for his parents, Klebold says, his extended family treated him like the runt of the litter. “You made me what I am,” he said. “You added to the rage.” As far back as the Foothills Day Care center, he hated the “stuck-up” kids he felt hated him. “Being shy didn’t help,” he admits. “I’m going to kill you all. You’ve been giving us s___ for years.”

That they were aiming for 250 dead shows that their motives went far beyond targeting the people who teased them. They planned it very carefully: when they would strike, where they would put the bombs, whether the fire sprinklers would snuff out their fuses. They could hardly wait. Harris picks up the shotgun and makes shooting noises. “Isn’t it fun to get the respect that we’re going to deserve?” he asks.

eight separate occasions from early April 1999 to the morning of April 20, 1999. Harris and Klebold taped a tour of Harris's bedroom and showed off their weapons and bombs. They recorded each other conducting dress rehearsals and they taped the drive in Harris's car to buy supplies needed for their plans.

While talking to the camera, Harris and Klebold laughed at how easy it was to make other people believe what they wanted them to. They talked about how "evolved" they were and how they considered themselves to be "above human." They said they were going to be successful because they were going to die and stressed that they had been planning the Columbine shootings for over eight months, before all the other school shootings had occurred.

Klebold and Harris both talked on camera about the rage and anger that had built up for years and declared they would destroy the world if they could. Harris asserted that, *"There is nothing that anyone could have done to prevent this. No one is to blame except me and Vodka."* He went on to say that their actions were *"a two man war against everyone else."*

There were also indications that Harris and Klebold initially planned the shootings to occur on April 19. They specifically mentioned Monday and another time said, *"Today is the 11th, eight more days."* They never articulated why they chose the day they did and never mentioned that April 19 was the anniversary of Waco, Texas or the Oklahoma City bombing. They never verbalized that they even knew April 20 is Adolph Hitler's birthday.

Harris and Klebold seemed to have lived two lives. Their friends and family described them as normal teenage boys. Others described them as outcasts. But they left behind evidence of a much darker and sinister side. This darker side was an aspect they apparently shared only with each other.

There was also evidence that Harris and Klebold had little concern for the welfare of their friends and the siblings of their friends, many of whom were in the cafeteria and library on April 20. In fact, they mention nonchalantly that some of their friends might die and casually point out that their families would be devastated but justified it by saying, *"War is war."*

* The Juvenile Diversion Program

The Juvenile Diversion Program is an alternative to prosecution for first-time offenders in the juvenile justice system. When a case is reviewed by a deputy district attorney, he may make a decision to offer a deferred judgement and sentence through the courts with supervision through Diversion. This offer is made if:

1. the juvenile accepts responsibility and show remorse for the offense;
2. the offense is non-violent and does not involve the use of a weapon;
3. the juvenile and his parents want to make reparation to the victims and the community;
4. there are no prior adjudications.

When kids have pushed Eric or Dylan in the hall or harassed them, they couldn't fight back. Even scrawny kids who hang out with jocks think they are cool. Just because they wear a ball cap, they get an attitude. If Eric or Dylan tried to fight them, they'd probably "sue me."

"Everybody has lawyers," says Dylan.

This sets off Eric, too. "Humans are too fucking good for natural selection," he says. He says he's tried to argue this point in class, as he plays with the shotgun still in his lap. He keeps running his finger along the stock.

NEXT VIDEO TAPE

It is the second week of April 1999, and Eric Harris is alone in his basement bedroom. He does not appear to be wearing a shirt as he holds the camera an arm's length away and talks directing into it. It shows a tight shot of his face. You can see his freckles and pimples, and his hair is buzzed military-style. His eyes appear to be dilated but it could be the result of the camera angle - detectives are not sure.

His look is solemn and his voice is monotone, as he talks seriously. It is spooky and upsetting to watch, because at times, he appears to be staring right into your eyes as you watch the tape. The detectives describe this as his "monologue."

He is leaving this tape, he says, for cops and for his mother and father.

"There was nothing anyone of you could have done to prevent this," he says. "No one else is to blame, but me and VoDKa." [ROCHE: VoDKa is Dylan's nickname. The capital DK in VoDKa is Dylan Klebold.]

About their families, he says: "It's not their fault."

The senior prom is only days away, and girls are on Eric's mind. [ROCHE: Did he have a prom date?] For all the "bitches out there" who never returned his calls or never did anything to respond to his advancements, this coming war is in part because of them. He talks very quietly. His eyes dance - literally dance - and he refuses to blink. Then he is silent, staring into the camera. "Think about that a while," he finally says into the camera.

[ROCHE: Investigator Kate Battan is still spooked by this part of the video tape. When watching it for the first time, she had turned out all the lights in a small office so she could see the tape clearly. That last remark by Eric, and the way he said it and the way his eyes didn't blink, were enough to spook her. She got up and turned on the lights. It was like he was speaking directly to her, staring into her eyes as she tried desperately to understand these young killers.]

— Kill each other

— Cuts

— Dnt get caught
by CAT.

— Dnt get caught
either.

— Got caught only once
as didn't

Tennis Bag

Gun case on bed

↓ I see
Arlene's sister
in there.

(H) Today we got
our lasers &
mal propane.

(H) - Testy to trigger
on Tech 9

"Who's your
God?"

— Scrapes barrel
of gun ~~against~~
over pile of
Pipe Bombs

Passover?

① I'm no pants ^{are} ~~are~~ Jewish?
Harris

② ~~He~~ looks slowly at
floor — it settles
on him.

Mood Change

Then Back to Fun
Games

Ⓚ - laughs so hard -
he spits/drools
on side of
mouth

Ⓚ - Popping Knuckles

~~Ⓚ - pops back -
freaks people
in class,
but Eric says
it didn't bother him.~~

"Master of the Obvious"
unison: ↗

In unison:
"shut the
fuck up"

— It's almost like it's real to
me now. I'm a witness now."

Columbine videos provide insight into rage

■ Authorities also release surveillance videos from the school cafeteria

By MICHAEL JANOFKY
The New York Times

GOLDEN, Colo. — Videotapes made by two teen-agers as they planned a shooting massacre at Columbine High School show them to be filled with rage, hoping to kill 250 people, yet sympathetic to their parents for what they would soon endure.

"Good wombs have borne bad sons," teen-ager Eric Harris quietly quoted Shakespeare in one of three tapes made with Dylan Klebold in the weeks leading to the April 20 assault, in which they killed 13 people and wounded two dozen others at the Littleton, Colo., school before turning their guns on themselves.

On Monday the tapes were released to reporters after Time magazine reported on them in this week's edition, which was made available to the media on Sunday.

Some families of the victims were angered at the Jefferson County sheriff's department for releasing the tapes, along with surveillance videos from the Columbine cafeteria, where the killers are seen walking around students who are cowering behind overturned desks and chairs.

The tapes form a macabre documentary of the meticulous planning of the attack, which they called retaliation for what they describe as years of taunting from friends and relatives because of their unwillingness to dress and act as others wanted.

Laced with profanity and racial epithets, the tapes reflect two boys who concluded that they could no longer cope with everyday life.

"If you could see all the anger I've stored over the past four years," Klebold says.

"More rage, more rage," Harris said. "I'm building it up."



Jefferson County sheriff's department/The Denver Post
A high school cafeteria surveillance tape shows Eric Harris, left and Dylan Klebold during the April 20 rampage at Columbine High School. Some parents were angry that officials released the tapes.

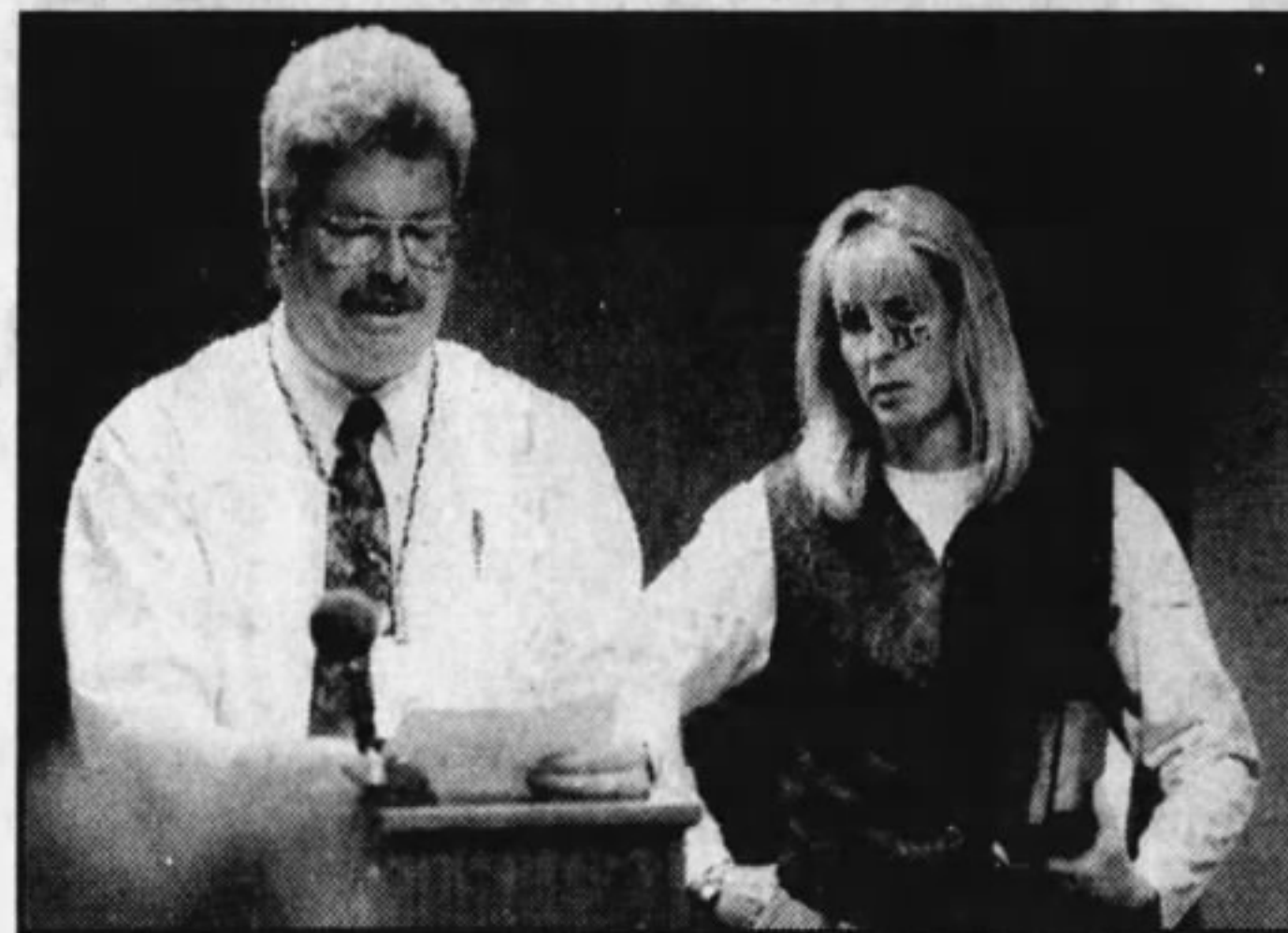
Through much of the tapes, the boys talk extemporaneously about the frustrations of their lives and their plans for April 20, against a backdrop of obvious self-loathing and expressed hatred for all mankind, especially minority groups, whom they belittle repeatedly with ugly racial epithets.

"What is society? Just stupid human beings living off each other," says Klebold.

Shortly afterward, Harris said "We need to die, too."

In all, the homemade tapes, most of them shot in the Harris home, last more than two hours and were made between March 15 and sometime just before the shooting began, when the boys spent a little over a minute saying goodbye.

Harris says: "I just wanted to apologize to you guys. To everyone



Jefferson County sheriff's spokesman Wayne Holverson and Kate Battan, lead investigator on the case, played tapes for the media Monday.

John Leyba/
The Denver Post

I love, I'm really sorry."

Klebold adds: "Just know going to a better place."

The tapes provide insight into the most perplexing question in the aftermath of the shootings: How could two middle-class teenage boys build up so much anger to randomly shoot classmates?

Some of the answer becomes quickly apparent as the two boys, sitting on easy chairs in the Harris home, take turns talking into the camera, recalling all the people who they feel slighted, taunted or mistreated them. The list includes elementary school classmates, relatives and many of the teen-agers who attend Columbine.

In acknowledging a pent-up rage to "get paybacks" against perceived enemies, which they said

they had been denied by rules that govern everyday life, they describe how they expect their crime to "kick-start a revolution." "Isn't it fun to get the respect that we're going to deserve?" says Harris, holding a sawed-off shotgun.

The boys also recount several episodes in which they said their plans might have been interrupted if their parents had exercised more curiosity about their activities. Harris is especially lucid in these moments, leaving the impression that perhaps he wished his parents, Wayne and Kathy Harris, had interceded.

In one incident, he talks about walking past his mother as he left home, with the end of a shotgun protruding out of a bag. He says his mother thought it was his BB gun.

More harrowing, however, is a 17-minute visit to Harris' cluttered bedroom, in which he plays tour guide for Klebold as cinematographer and interviewer. With exquisite precision and detail, Harris holds before the camera a virtual arsenal of weapons, bombs and ammunition that he has concealed on shelves, in boxes and behind knickknacks.

At one point, he indicates a "bunker" outside his window where he claims to be storing mortar grenades, pipe bombs and other explosives.

"Thank God, my parents never searched my room," he tells Klebold.

A segment taped in Klebold's room also shows a collection of ammunition, guns and a knife, and in separate sessions in each of their homes, they taped themselves in dress rehearsals for April 20, trying on their belts and harnesses with loaded weapons.

The tapes also reveal differences between the two with Harris appearing the schemer and Klebold the follower and philosopher.

"My Dad's great, and my mother, she's so thoughtful," Harris says. "I wish I was a sociopath, so I didn't have any remorse for this. But I do. They are going to go through hell for this.."

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Columbine High School students reacted with grief at a triage scene near the school in Littleton, Col., April 20, after two young men killed 13 people and then themselves. George Kochanec, Associated Press

DARKNESS IN DENVER

Associated Press
Eric Harris, left and Dylan Klebold, right, are shown in a still photo taken from a videotape made by a cafeteria surveillance camera during the April 20, 1999, shooting rampage.



Shooters
sought fame
through
murderous
rampage
in school

ANDREW SULLIVAN
THE SUNDAY TIMES
DENVER

Almost as soon as the shootings occurred at Columbine High School, the explanations started pouring forth. The massacre, in which 12 students and a teacher were murdered last April 20 by two teenage gunmen, Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, in a suburban school, immediately became folklore.

Klebold and Harris killed themselves immediately following the rampage.

It was, for some, the epitome of a violent, gun-ridden American youth culture. For others, it was about the collapse of moral bearings in the younger generation, fostered by family breakdown and irresponsible parenting. For others still, it was about the violence in movies and on television; and about war games on the Internet.

For a handful of liberals, it was about America's shockingly conformist youth culture, in which anyone except the school athletes and homecoming queens were alienated and dispossessed.

The media helped the national conversation along. For a few news cycles, the slaughter was about race, as the murderers were reputed to use a racist epithet before shooting a black student.

Then it was about homosexuality, as rumours went the rounds of the web that either Klebold or Harris or both were gay.

Then it was about religion, as born-again Christians claimed that one of the victims, Cassie Bernall, was selected because of her faith.

Above all, though, it was about the nadir of America's youth, a symbol of an increasingly alienated, violent generation, wreaking revenge in once-safe places like high schools in suburbia.

Now, as facts start to leak out, it turns out that the Columbine massacre was probably none of these things.

Last week, Time magazine published details from Klebold and Harris's own videotapes and jour-

nals, elaborating in some detail the precise motives and goals of the crime.

Klebold and Harris, it turns out, were not tormented or abused or hopelessly excluded from society. Their parents weren't completely negligent. They weren't ideologists dying for a particular cause. They were just evil.

They knew what they were doing. They took full responsibility for it. They didn't blame their parents. They didn't blame society. They didn't blame the media.

Although they had plenty of targets for their hate, they didn't aim their anger at any particular group or person. They planned merely to kill up to 250 people, in an elaborate, adolescent scheme involving rifles and pipe-bombs.

Their motive? Fame and the empowering thrill of murder: the motives of innumerable obscure mass criminals before and doubtless after them.

They were not ignorant products of a dumb, mass culture. Harris quoted Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, to exculpate his and Klebold's parents. "Good wombs have borne bad sons," he declaims on the tape.

He knew that his and Harris's parents suspected they were up to no good, but who could have suspected such a mass murder?

"If only we could have reached them sooner or found this tape," Klebold says his parents will say after the event. "If only we would have searched their room. If only we would have asked the right questions."

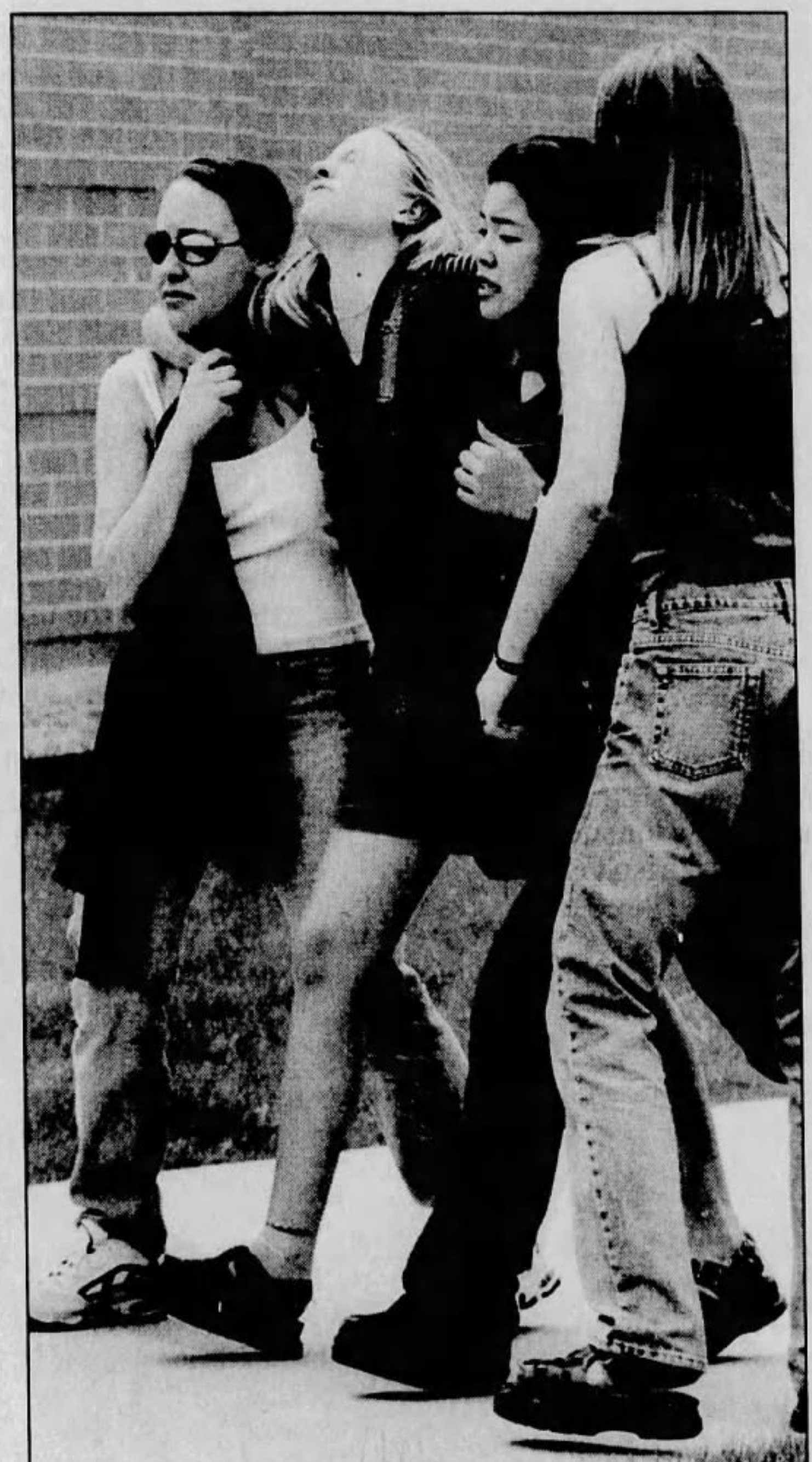
Harris is contemptuous of their inept intervention. On the tape, he laughs at his mother's assumption that a gun sticking out of his gym bag one day was an airgun.

At one point, a clerk at a gun store had called the Harris household to tell Eric that his gun clips were ready. Harris's father answered the phone and, instead of questioning further, simply told the man he had the wrong number and hung up.

Were they the inevitable products of a violent society with easy access to guns? Not exactly. Youth violence, especially gun violence, is at a decades-long low point in America this year, along with the juvenile and general crime rate.

The bombs Klebold and Harris made were homemade devices that can be constructed by anyone, anywhere in the world. The guns they procured were bought by an elaborate network of friends to circumvent the law — friends who, the murderers insist, did not know their intentions. If they hadn't got the guns where they did, Harris says on the tape, "we would have found something else."

Klebold and Harris weren't passive copy-cat killers, either. "Do not think we're trying to copy anyone," Harris says, referring to



Associated Press/File
Students sought safer location following shootings.

school shootings in Oregon and Kentucky. They were planning their massacre long "before the first one ever happened." And theirs would be better, "not like those ... in Kentucky with camouflage and .22s. Those kids were only trying to be accepted by others."

Their hatred was universal, targeting "niggers, Jews, gays, ... whites" and anyone else who had crossed them.

"I hope we kill 250 of you," Klebold says, predicting the most "nerve-racking 15 minutes of my life, after the bombs are set and we're waiting to charge through the school. Seconds will be like hours. I can't wait. I'll be shaking like a leaf."

Were they angry? Of course they were. But they fed their anger willingly. Harris took himself off his anti-depressant, Luvox, because it had weakened his will.

"More rage. More rage," he says in the video. "Keep building it on."

Harris's AOL website was not exactly reticent about his ambition. It contained the details of his pipe-bombs and a candid description of his intent: "I'm coming for EVERYONE soon and I WILL be armed to the ... teeth and I WILL shoot to kill."

He lambastes the population of Denver, "with their rich snobby attitude thinking they are all high and mighty ... God, I can't wait 'til I can kill you people. Feel no remorse, no sense of shame. I don't care if I live or die in the shoot-out."

Sometimes, in our rush for the deeper meaning of horrifying events, we miss the deepest of all. In our desire to explain away human evil, we can be very inventive. We blame peer pressures, mental illness, lack of gun control, alienation, poor parenting, bad television, racism, the Internet, the school system, Hollywood anything but the simple, timeless human urge to do harm.

Columbine is not, it turns out, a story of our time. It is the oldest story of all.

Which makes it, of course, the story we least want to hear.



AP/NBC/Today
Image of Dylan Klebold taken from video made six months before rampage at Columbine School.



Eric Harris is shown relaxing in school cafeteria in an undated yearbook photo.

EDITORIALS

A12/Thursday, December 16, 1999

Corpus Christi Caller-Times

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"Give them light and the people will find their own way."

Selecting 'Orion's Belt'

The approval of public art work stood by a process that works.

Selecting a piece of public art hasn't always been a smooth piece of business in Corpus Christi. We may not know all there is to know about the fine points of art, but we certainly know how to get into a good fight about it.

But in approving the city arts commission's selection of "Orion's Belt" to stand at the entrance to the city, the City Council affirmed an art selection process that balances the public's sentiments with the perspective of art expertise. That process certainly beats the alternative of having the council make the final selection, a method favored by some council members.

Council member Betty Jean Longoria was right in saying that although her sentiments favored a piece by famed Rockport artist Jesus Bautista Moroles over the selected work by Robert Perless, the council would have difficulty on agreeing on art. Better to have an art selection process that takes politics and personal favorites out of the picture.

The \$200,000 piece of sculpture, which depicts the three stars of constellation Orion, will stand near the intersection of I-37 and Shoreline. A special panel appointed by the Art and Cultural Commission and approved by the council chose the Perless work during a process that reduced the artists in the running to a half dozen. The six submitted models of their work and their proposals were put

out for public comment. Readers of the *Caller-Times* voted their own choices from the six. The panel chose the Perless submission, it was approved by the commission, but it was rejected by the council in October.

The rejection in October underlined the special road that public art must travel. A private commission of art has only to please the artist and his buyer. But public art is, in fact, public. The process of selecting public art through panels and public hearings may not have the harmony of Pope Julius II commissioning Michelangelo to produce the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, but it's a process that when it works balances the public's voice and the art experts.

Not that the process doesn't stumble at times. The bruises are still visible from the controversy surrounding the rejection of James Surls' "Turn", a 35-foot pipe-and-wood sculpture, in 1980. But the success of the process in selecting "Orion's Belt" is a big step in recapturing confidence in this city's commitment to public art.

Will "Orion's Belt" be everyone's cup of tea? Art being a highly subjective business, it may not be. The answer is to have more public art, offering more pieces that answer the range of the public's taste. The process of selecting them may not be pretty, but the result, a city defined by its art, ought to be.

Compounding the pain

Handling of Columbine killers' tapes was stunningly inept.

The pain of families that lost children in last April's massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., will never go away. In time, though, a kind of healing may take place.

That healing process, however, was cruelly set back this week by the ham-fisted fashion in which the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department dealt with the issue of the videotapes killers Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold made before their attack on the high school.

Officials of the department made the tapes available to a reporter from *Time* magazine, who proceeded to write a story quoting Harris and Klebold at length. Subsequently, the department complained that the reporter had violated an understanding under the terms of which the tapes were to serve as background only.

When other journalists protested, the sheriff dutifully made the tapes available to them — and, belatedly, to the families of

the slain and the wounded.

It was odious stuff the viewers saw. In a hate-filled diatribe, Harris and Klebold railed against fellow students they believed had victimized them, and exulted over the carnage they would wreak. Lashing out at blacks, Christians, women, Jews, athletes, police and others, Harris concluded: "I hate the (expletive) humans." Klebold concurred readily.

The only even remotely human note on the tapes was an apology to their parents, who, as Harris put it, "didn't have a clue."

A victim's parent who viewed the tapes, however, had the last word. Dale Todd, whose son Evan was wounded, said, "It makes me realize that we need to look deeper into society's ills that we're creating kids like this."

All of this needed to come out, true. But the way the sheriff's department handled the issue heaped pain atop pain. The situation demanded sensitivity and discretion. What it got, sadly, was gross ineptitude.

Farewell to 'Peanuts'

Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus and company head for retirement.

Good grief: No more "Peanuts?" That was the grim word that came off the news wires this week, casting a small but significant cloud over the nation's holiday cheer.

Charles Schulz, 77, who has been drawing one of the world's most beloved — and, in its own way, deeply thoughtful — comic strips since the late 1940s, announced that he and the "Peanuts" gang will toddle off into retirement: The last daily strip will appear Jan. 3, and the last Sunday installment will run Feb. 13.

Certainly Schulz, who is recovering from colon cancer surgery, has earned a rest. Though his recuperation is going well, he said, "I want to focus on my health and my

family without the worry of a daily deadline."

Still, it's going to be tough to get through the day without a serving of "Peanuts." Across the nation, there were expressions of dismay; some of the most heartfelt came from his fellow cartoonists. Mort Walker, who draws both "Beetle Bailey" and "Hi and Lois," said of Schulz: "He delved into the psyche of children and the fears and the rejections that we all felt as children."

The magic in Schulz's art is that he takes material that could be distinctly downbeat and distills from it the essence of the human comedy. We'll not soon see his like again — more's the pity.

OPINIONS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Great medical strides

It is too bad that the recently published study from the Institute of Medicine extrapolated discharge records of selected New York hospitals from 1984 to the entire country in 1997. As if nothing has changed in 15 years!

I can speak to the enormous changes in my specialty, anesthesia. In the last decade, estimates of the number of deaths attributed to anesthesia have dropped 25-fold. Fourteen years ago, the estimate was about 1 in 10,000 anesthetics. Today, that figure is now placed at about 1 in 250,000! This has occurred during a time when the youngest of premature infants have survived successful surgeries (I recently anesthetized a premature infant weighing less than a pound) and 100-year-old patients undergo and recover from surgery.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists introduced monitoring standards in 1986 that used new technologies to help monitor a patient's oxygen and carbon dioxide levels, to name but a couple. Improved anesthesia drugs and training of physicians have also contributed to this success. The anesthesia patient Safety Foundation has systematically studied problems and provided solutions to anesthesiologists that have saved patient lives.

We need to continue the systematic study of errors in all areas of medicine because it is more complex now than ever before. I just wanted to let the public know that work has been done in the last 15 years that may not be reflected in the recent news media and I hope we can continue to make as much progress in the next 15 years.

Dr. Mary Dale Peterson
(President, Texas Society
of Anesthesiologists)

No money for causeway

This is 1999, not 1899 or even 1949. There are weather satellites, computers at home and work, radios, televisions, and most people have at least one vehicle. If safety is supposed to be the issue in raising the Kennedy Causeway, we should leave it like it is. People who choose to live on the island are now forced to evacuate early because of the threat of getting cut off from the mainland by storm tides.

If the causeway were elevated, these same people would stall or even not leave, thinking there is a way out. This is human nature, but someday (and we are overdue) a storm surge is going to wipe out every home on the island, along with the people in them. Let's save the \$45 million and put it on existing roads and highways that are more dangerous to the taxpaying public. Hats off to Nueces County Commissioners Schwing, Noyola, and Ortiz for doing what the taxpayers elected them to do.

George F. Picha, Jr.
(Robstown)

Fee or tax

Once upon a time there was the concept at all levels of American government that they would provide basic services to the people and all of it would be treated more or less equally. In return a tax was levied to provide for the common good.

In recent times government has wanted not only to collect the tax for providing services but to charge a service or use fee on top of the tax. Government should either tax for services rendered or charge a service fee, but not both. While no one usually objects to paying taxes for schools, maintaining the roads, parks and recre-



Lights of Christmas

Driving through Sinton early in the morning on our way to San Antonio, we were so pleased to see the lovely lighted Christmas trees lighting our way through town. They are so pretty and cheerful.

Wanted you to know people do appreciate your endeavor.

Ann and George Brower
(Aransas Pass)

ational facilities, police, fire and other basic services, it is an encroachment and an offense to basic taxation concepts to also charge a fee.

The concept of government "making a profit" or charging use fees for parks and beaches, among other things, on the assumption that out-of-towners will bear the burden should also be offensive to the ordinary citizen. If we want to be treated fairly when we are visiting other cities and towns across our great land, then should we not treat people from Duluth, San Antonio, Seattle and other places as we would in turn would like to be treated when they visit here?

Maybe it is time to take a deep breath and enjoy what we have before our political management launches any more uncertain ventures. Corpus Christi is too precious to waste.

W.R. Alling

Newcomers voted

In regard to the "old town" controversy in Portland, Mr. Ralls stated, "The council didn't hear us." No, they never do. They also didn't hear Larry Baker when he explained the problems a project on Lang Road would create for our school district.

I'm not really surprised that David Krebs was the only council member who voted against the ordinance. But I really thought Mrs. Butler might. Her husband's lumberyard was once part of the "old town." Krebs is the only one on the council that I know of who was born and raised here. Most of them have no appreciation, respect or even knowledge of the things Vance Dawson, Raymond Dugat, Buddy Ganem or Daniel Moore did for our city.

How many people really would like to see Dr. Rieger's clinic or Mimi's Café replaced by shops that will go broke in a year? I wonder how many of the 2,000-plus young men I coached in Portland in 28 years would approve of the ordinance?

John Kline
(Portland)

On book lookout

I just wanted to inform your readers about a wonderful organization in Corpus Christi catering to everyone who likes books. The Brandeis University National Women's Committee (located on 4410 Dillon Lane, Suite 37, phone 814-0055) organizes books, which are generously

donated from the community (they'll even arrange for a pick-up).

The efficiency with which they categorize volumes of books into different interests and types and then compile them for donation to those groups which request them is truly a sight to behold.

As the chairperson for the new Book Benefit Program at Mary Carroll High School, I am always looking for books in good condition to supplement our accelerated reading program coordinated in the library and the reading classrooms. Through the generosity of these selfless women, our school is richer by 16 books. I am also looking forward to their big sale in May for which they are already managing. Anyone wishing to donate a book and considering his or her options for the recipient should certainly consider donating to the Brandeis Committee.

Natalie Olsson

The Master Chef

As a Christian, I do not agree with Steven Pena's letter (Dec. 5) that religious belief is a requisite for moral conduct. I believe that without religion there would be no need for moral conduct.

Since the time of the pharaohs in Egypt, vast hordes of people have emotionally and spiritually believed that their actions in the present need to be subject to scrutiny by one greater than oneself or else all actions, thoughts, and deeds are for a greedy purpose with no reason to answer to anyone about anything, ever! This is what separates people from all other life forms here on earth.

What emptiness without the Creator! As atheists who probably believe everything scientifically, then they should be able to answer who, what, where and how, but how can they answer the most important question of life, why?

Why would or should life, at its so-called inception, create itself only to destroy itself for no reason at all?

One area on which I will agree with atheists is that there probably was a sort of soup that began life's processes, but I do not and will not, ever, disavow the Master Chef! Why? That's my reason for being!

Marc Lizotte

Learning at Montclair

I am a student teacher at Montclair Elementary and Dec. 3 was my last day as a student teacher at Montclair. I would like to thank my mentoring teachers, Mrs. Sharon Amaya and Mrs. Alma Villarreal, for all of the help, advice and friendship that they have given to me. I walked into the classroom feeling overwhelmed by what my duties would be. However, the anxiety quickly went away when I was greeted by a friendly, smiling staff. I have learned a great deal from my mentors at Montclair and I would like to thank them from the bottom of my heart for making my experience one of positive memories.

Thank you to the entire staff at Montclair. I will certainly miss each of you that I was able to make a connection with.

Anna C. Lopez

Contributions welcome

Letters should be 200 words or less; Forum articles for the Viewpoints Page should be 600 words or less. Both must be signed and include name, address and phone numbers for day and evening. Letters and Forum articles will be edited.

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Images of Columbine

Chilling videotapes of two schoolboy killers

The killers of Columbine High School have immortalized themselves on videotape. The words and images that Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold left for the world to view are chilling. The teenagers who recorded their rage and revenge on videotape lived comfortable lives in an affluent Denver suburb never wanting for material goods. What they clearly lacked was an emotional support system that might have saved them from themselves.

Unbeknownst to their parents or others, the video camera was turned on and off more than a dozen times between March 15 and the half-hour before the two friends walked into Columbine High School with guns blazing on April 20. Harris and Klebold left more than two hours worth of tape behind to hammer home their hate.

The bizarre, homemade videos, along with newly revealed surveillance tapes taken from Columbine High School, were released to the public before the families of the Columbine shootings were consulted. The timing of the move by law enforcement officials was insensitive, but the tapes would have been made public sooner or later. Their existence is too compelling to keep under cover.

The tapes put the viewer face to face with two strangely troubled American teenagers who seemed to have it all — good homes, good schools and caring adults who sadly missed all the signs of pending disaster. Perhaps what is most disturbing about the killers' recordings is that most of the tapes were recorded in their homes.

On one tape Harris leads cinematographer Klebold on a tour of his cluttered bedroom, revealing a collection of guns, bombs and ammunition with an aside that "thank God my parents never searched my room." Which begs the question of how two teenagers could plan, tape and hoard weapons where they lived *without* drawing attention, or at least curiosity, from their parents.

Harris quietly remarks on one of the last tapes made that the boys, not their parents, were responsible for their deeds. "Good wombs have borne bad sons," he said, quoting Shakespeare.

But it still remains inconceivable to many that no one in either the Harris or Klebold household saw, heard or even suspected something untoward developing over the months. Tragically, the intense scrutiny Harris and Klebold now receive comes far too late for them or their victims.

'They've got their hell . . . I've got mine'

VIDEO from 5A

foiled when his father took a call from a gun dealer letting him know his clips were in.

But Harris apparently still wasn't worried about being found out.

He and Klebold taped their tour of his bedroom in the early hours of March 15 as the Harrises slept.

"Sssh," Klebold says. "Your mom can hear a bat breathing."

"She hears nothing," Harris answers.

It was a viewing, they said, of "all our illegal stuff."

The tour begins with Harris showing off plastic gloves taken from a doctor's office. They're useful, he says, in building pipe bombs.

As Klebold pans to the bombs, his voice becomes almost reverent: "Beautiful. Oh my God."

For 17 minutes, the teens are a frightening mix of boys and bombers, taping troll dolls and ammunition with the same excitement.

Don Fleming, whose daughter Kelly died in the shootings, said he was surprised to learn what Harris kept in his room.

But he added he didn't want to criticize the gunmen's parents.

"They've got their hell to go through. I've got mine. It's two different hells, but it's still hell."

Contact Lynn Bartels at (303) 892-5327 or bartelsl@rockymountain-news.com.

Staff writer Karen Abbott contributed to this report.

Boy was shunned by schoolmates

TEEN from 5A

The theft charge relates to more than \$100 the boy stole from his employer, Video City, before he ran away in October, Springer said. His father repaid the money.

Springer said the high school senior's writings about Columbine and stealing money to run away were "a call for help."

"Even though his writings were of a threatening nature, it is the belief of psychiatric experts that he did not intend to carry out his threats," Pautler said. The prosecutor also said the boy didn't have weapons or devices to carry out his threats.

Springer said the boy was ostracized by other students after the Columbine shootings last April because he knew Klebold and Harris and had made videos with them in a video production class.

"He truly is another victim of Columbine," Springer said. "He knew Harris and Klebold and was under undue pressure because of that from kids at Columbine."

Contact Sue Lindsay at (303) 892-5181 or lindsays@rockymountain-news.com.

Tapes show planning of Columbine shooting

By Julie Cart
LOS ANGELES TIMES

GOLDEN, Colo. — In chilling home movies in which they acted out their attack, laughing at and mocking those they planned to kill, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold left behind a stark videotaped document that spelled out for authorities their motivation and the methods the teen-agers used in their rampage at Columbine High School.

In the videotapes shown to reporters Monday, Harris and Klebold say they hope to carry out the biggest mass murder in U.S. history. At times speaking directly to law enforcement officials, the young men meticulously recount how they obtained the four guns and built the bombs they used to kill 12 classmates, a teacher and, finally take their own lives. The hours of tape are filled with profanity and tirades against gays, blacks, women and Jews.

In one session taped March 15, viewers are given a disturbing look into the minds of the teen-agers. Lounging on reclining chairs in the basement of the Harris home, the shooters speak of their rage, fueled by what they say were years of taunting from athletes, rich kids and peers only interested in conformity. Their hate-filled conversation includes a discussion about how they planned to blow off one classmate's jaw and to scalp another.

"I hope we kill all 250 of you," says Klebold. "If you could see the rage I've built up over the years."

Harris, swigging from a bottle of Jack Daniels and lovingly handling a sawed-off shotgun he named Arlene, shrugs, "I'm really sorry about all of this, but war's war."

Three videotapes prepared by Harris and Klebold in the months before the April 20 attack were

found at Harris' home soon after the carnage. They are startling in their matter-of-fact recitation by the gunmen of what they intended to do to those they believed had wronged them.

At one point, Harris begins to list every girl who declined to go out with him. He muses about dying and becoming a ghost, and the two guffaw about haunting the survivors of their shooting spree, making noises that will trigger flashbacks and "drive them insane."

At the high school, video cameras recorded the carnage in several areas of the school as it happened.

A black and white surveillance tape from the Columbine cafeteria, where pipe bombs were detonated and fires broke at the start of the rampage, was shown Monday. The silent tape depicts the busy lunch hour cafeteria where the gunmen had placed the largest bombs. With a time display showing 11:25, flashes are shown and students dive under tables.

Smoke billows and obscures the camera, muting the bright strobes of fire alarms.

After a fire beaks out, most of the students race out of the lunchroom and up a flight of stairs. At one point a man walks through the frame; an explosion blows him off his feet.

Harris and Klebold enter the cafeteria twice. Brandishing their guns, they thread their way around overturned chairs and Harris stops to drink from an abandoned soda cup. Unnoticed by the gunmen are six students huddled under a table.

Nevada school officials can videotape students without parental consent in the classroom, hallway and other public areas where there is no expectation of privacy. There are limitations on surveillance in locker and bathroom areas, accord-

ON CABLE

What: The videotape of the Nov. 30 meeting of the People Against Violent Entertainment/Media, a Reno group proposing that video stores place R-rated movies and videos with violence out of the sight of small children.

When: 8 p.m. Thursday and 2 p.m. Saturday

Where: SMCAT, Channel 16

ing to Steve Mulvenon, Washoe County schools spokesman.

Video surveillance has been a tool in catching crooks and proving problem behavior at local schools, he said. Incline High School has outdoor surveillance on the building exits and cameras at Reed High School helped catch several burglars a couple of years ago.

All school buses are equipped to carry video cameras and some have

been used to document problems on the bus, school officials said.

The existence of the videotapes of Harris and Klebold was not publicly known until last month.

Excerpts from the tapes were read at the sentencing of the man who sold the pair the TEC-DC9 assault pistol that Klebold used during the attack.

At the time, authorities said they didn't want to release the tapes because they might bring the gunmen the notoriety they sought.

Jefferson County officials made an abrupt turnaround Monday when Time magazine published a detailed account of the massacre based on the tapes provided by the sheriff's office.

A sheriff's spokesman said the department felt obligated to share the tapes with the media and the families of the slain, although no video or audio recording of the tapes was allowed.



Associated Press

RAMPAGE: Eric Harris, left and Dylan Klebold are shown in a still photo taken from a videotape made by a cafeteria surveillance camera during the April 20, 1999, shooting at Columbine High School.

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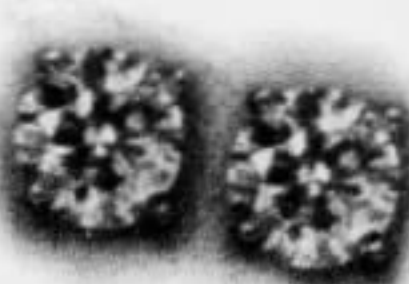
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Why they were clueless in Colorado

The cold bug bit me this past weekend and laid me low. Impatient with reading, I turned on television and tuned to the 24-hour all-news cable stations (I abhor soap operas and the talk-show sludge).

And there they were — again — Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris. The two teens had made tapes, over a series of months, as a sort of macabre legacy/explanation of the massacre they would carry out with deadly precision on April 20 at Columbine High School. Time magazine reporters had viewed the previously unseen tapes and written an in-depth series of articles for the edition that hit newsstands this week. The news shows devoted considerable time — in some cases, giving short shrift to the last Republican presidential debate — to discuss the tapes and Time's stories, and the public reaction of the Columbine families.

The transcripts of those tapes are in a word, chilling. They are made even more so because of the irony and the role fate played in the massacre.

These two poisoned young teens had been planning the massacre for more than a year, but had harbored the hatred that led to it since they were small children and unknown to each other. Fate, awful fate, brought them together at Columbine, and they almost instantly saw in each other's eyes the reflection of the other.

During the months leading up to the slaughter at Columbine, they smiled and joked with fellow students, turned in assignments, had lunch in the cafeteria and visited the library — the scene of much of the carnage — all the while keeping close to their diseased hearts the secret of what was to come.

They were nothing if not coldly methodical. The bombs they set to explode were to serve two purposes: The killing of as many students as possible and as a distraction to the police so Harris and Klebold could finish off survivors with their weapons.

"I hope we kill 250 of you. . . I can't wait," says Klebold, seen sitting in a La-Z Boy, chewing on a toothpick on one tape.

All while he is talking, Harris swigs from a bottle of Jack Daniels and fondles a sawed-off shotgun in his lap. This is all going on while Harris' parents are asleep upstairs.

Klebold and Harris could have been stopped before they fired a single shot. On their videotapes, they laughingly describe how they fooled their parents and escaped other brushes with discovery. Klebold's parents walked into his room while he was

trying on his black trench coat — a sawed-off shotgun was hidden underneath. Harris' mother saw him leaving the house with a gym bag with the butt of a gun sticking out — she thought it was his BB gun. (Why on earth she wouldn't question her son taking a BB gun to school or anywhere is anyone's guess.) Both boys hid pipe bombs in their bedroom closets. An employee of the Green Mountain Guns shop called the Harris home and spoke to Eric's father. "Hey, your clips are in," he said. The elder Harris said he hadn't ordered any clips, but didn't go the step further and ask the logical question: Why do you think I or anyone else in the house needs ammunition clips?

Time magazine found other incidents — a multitude, in fact — whereby fate and the blindness of those with whom these diseased teens came into contact seemingly conspired with Harris and Klebold. Both teens wrote essays that, in hindsight, are predictive of their murderous secret; Harris' venomous websites on America On Line included this tirade: "I'm coming for everyone soon and I will be armed to the [obscenity] teeth and I will shoot to kill. . . God, I can't wait until I can kill you people. All I want to do is kill and injure as many of you as I can. I don't care if I live or die in the shoot-out."

The Denver police and several people in the Columbine community knew of the website — and what was on it — but no action was taken.

It is difficult, as I and others have written, to understand how the parents of these teens had no clue. Harris and Klebold exonerate not only their parents, but those who helped them secure the guns they used, on the tapes. But, throughout, both teens say that if only their parents had checked the gym bag, the middle drawer of the dresser (where Harris kept for months four clocks to be used as timers for the bombs), the website, the basement, closets and garages where the boys kept bombs and bomb-making materials. . .

Why is it that Harris' parents didn't notice that their son had stopped taking the

medication prescribed by the psychiatrist? On tape, Harris explains he did that so that his anger would be "undiluted." One would think that a responsible parent would check periodically to ensure and reassure himself that his child was taking such vital medication, but this was not the case in the Harris household.

After reading Time's articles and watching the television analysis of the tapes, one is left to wonder again how so many people could be clueless and why so many chose to be so.

Often, the poor and minorities, specifically blacks and Latinos, in this country are unfairly and automatically assumed to be violent and dangerous, especially the youth. Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, as has been the case

with the other school massacres, were white, from wealthy or middle-class families with all the advantages that affluence entails. Because that is so, the question "why" is repeatedly asked. When a poor, black teen from a single-parent household, living in the slums, commits an act of violence, few ask "why" and even fewer care. It is as if such violence and the color of one's skin and/or economic status go hand in hand, as if it is expected. This says something about our society — and our assumptions — just as the massacre at Columbine High School does.

There are those who believe that killers are born, not made. Harris, quoting Shakespeare's "The Tempest," said on one of the final tapes: "Good wombs hath borne bad sons."

As the holidays and the new millennium nears, the CIA, FBI and the State Department have all issued warnings about possible terrorists attacks. These warnings also got much air time over the weekend. They serve to remind us that we have enemies without. Harris' statement serves to remind us that we have enemies within.



STEVIE LACY-PENDLETON

Stevie Lacy-Pendleton is the Sunday Advance Perspective editor. Her column appears each Wednesday and Friday on the Advance editorial pages.

Video shows off Columbine gunmen's illegal loot

By LYNN BARTELS

SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

LITTLETON, Colo. — "Let me take you on a tour of my room," Columbine senior Eric Harris says to the camera.

What a tour it is.

He has an alluring poster of Pamela Lee Anderson on his wall — along with 50 feet of green, coiled fuse.

He has rows of CDs — with pipe bombs stashed behind.

He has an old box from a BB gun — with a sawed-off shotgun hidden inside.

Welcome to Eric Harris' madness, a basement bedroom in a suburban home. The issue of whether Wayne and Kathy Harris should have known more about their son's activities was raised again this week after homemade videos of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were made public.

That taped tour might be the most crucial piece of evidence in proving the Harrises and Klebolds are liable for what their sons did at Columbine High on April 20, Denver attorney Scott Robinson said.

"What surely will figure in any trial are the videotaped images of Eric's room, a sort of

'Lifestyle of the Young and Wicked,' " he said.

In one tape, Harris says: "Thank God my parents (didn't) search my room. They would have found so much s—."

Harris' and Klebold's parents are being sued by Michael and Vonda Shoels, whose son Isaiah was one of the 13 people murdered at Columbine before the gunmen killed themselves.

"Without the tape, the Shoelses didn't have much to work with in terms of parental neglect," Robinson said.

Most of the weaponry Harris and Klebold

accumulated was stored at the Harrises' house, some in clever hiding places, other pieces easy to find by opening a drawer or lifting a lid.

The Harrises, like the Klebolds, have never publicly talked. But the Harrises had known for several years that their youngest son had problems.

Sometime in late 1997 or early 1998, Columbine parent Judy Brown said she told the Harrises that their son became violent when

*Please see **Columbine**, B-10*

'They're going to be put through hell once we do this'

■ 'THEY'RE

Continued from Page A1

Laced with profanity and racial epithets, the tapes reflect two boys who concluded that they could no longer cope with everyday life.

"If you could see all the anger I've stored over the past four years," Klebold says.

"More rage, more rage," Harris said. "I'm building it up."

THE RAGE erupted at their school in the Denver suburb of Littleton, as the two seniors detonated bombs and marched through the library, where they shot and killed 12 students and a teacher before turning guns on themselves.

Wayne Halverson, a spokesman for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, said Monday that the tapes were being shown to reporters Monday because Time magazine had violated its agreement with investigators by using direct quotes from the tapes and the authorities feared "the potential for sensationalism and the resulting anguish to the victims' families."

He said investigators agreed to screen them for Time "for background purposes only" to provide information about the motives of the killers.

But Diana Pearson, a spokeswoman for Time, said the magazine made no such agreement nor did the authorities insist on any restrictions.

IN ALL, the homemade tapes, most of them shot in the Harris home, last more than two hours and were made between March 15 and sometime just before the shooting began, when the boys spent a little over a minute saying goodbye.

Harris says: "I just wanted to apologize to you guys. To everyone I love, I'm really sorry about all this."

Klebold adds: "Just know going to a better place."

Through much of the tapes, the boys talk extemporaneously about the frustrations of their lives and their plans for April 20, against a backdrop of obvious self-loathing and expressed hatred for all mankind, especially minority groups, whom they belittle repeatedly with ugly racial epithets.

"What is society? Just stupid human beings living off each other," says Klebold at one point.

Shortly afterward, Harris said that after the killings, "We need to die, too."

The tapes provide new insight into the most perplexing question in the aftermath of the shootings: How could two teen-age boys from comfortable middle-class families have build up so much anger and rage to shoot innocent classmates at random?

SOME OF the answer becomes quickly apparent as the two boys, sitting on easy chairs in the Harris home, take turns talking into the camera, recalling all the people who they feel slighted, taunted or mistreated them. The list includes elementary school classmates, relatives and many of the teen-agers who attend Columbine.

In acknowledging a pent-up rage to "get paybacks" against perceived enemies, which they said they had been denied by rules that govern everyday life, they describe how they expect their crime to "kick-start a revolution."

"Isn't it fun to get the respect that we're going to deserve?" says Harris, who is holding the sawed-off shotgun he would use at Columbine.

The boys also recount several episodes in which they said their plans might have been interrupted if their parents had exercised more curiosity about their activities. Harris is especially lucid in these moments, leaving the impression that perhaps he wished his parents, Wayne and Kathy Harris, had interceded.

In one incident, he talks about walking past his mother as he left home, with the

end of a shotgun protruding out of a bag. He says his mother thought it was his BB gun.

More harrowing for the viewer, however, is a 17-minute visit to Harris' cluttered bedroom, in which he plays tour guide for Klebold as cinematographer and interviewer. With exquisite precision and detail, Harris holds before the camera a virtual arsenal of weapons, bombs and ammunition that he has concealed on shelves, in boxes and behind knickknacks.

AT ONE point, he indicates a "bunker" outside his window where he claims to be storing mortar grenades, pipe bombs and other explosives.

"Thank God, my parents never searched my room," he tells Klebold.

As they're leaving his room, he pretends his mother has just walked in.

"Looks good, son," he says, as if to mock her.

A segment taped in Klebold's room also shows a collection of ammunition, guns and a knife, and in separate sessions in each of their homes, they taped themselves in dress rehearsals for April 20, trying on their belts and harnesses with loaded weapons.

The tapes also reveal critical differences between the two teen-agers. While the tapes do not make clear, as reports of the killing surmised, that Harris was the schemer and Klebold the follower, it does become apparent that Harris is the deeper thinker of the two.

It is also during those moments in which Harris, far more than Klebold, expresses sadness and regret — hauntingly, at times — for what they feel they must do and how he thinks it will affect his family.

Harris says of his parents: "My Dad's great, and my mother, she's so thoughtful. She helps out in so many ways. I wish I was a sociopath, so I didn't have any remorse for this. But I do. They are going to go through hell for this. This is going to tear them apart."

TUESDAY

CITY

SYRACUSE

HERALD-JOURNAL

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DECEMBER 14, 1999

35¢

Canal passes to Panama

Ceremony
marks the end
of a 96-year
relationship

Story Below



AP

THE FLAGS of the United States and Panama wave Monday as scaffolding is taken down at the American Cemetery for those killed in the making of the Panama Canal.

WHAT THEY WERE THINKING

Columbine videotapes lay out in chilling detail
the plans of two lost souls **Story Below**



AP

*"Thank God,
my parents
never
searched my
room."*

— ERIC HARRIS



AP

*"What is
society? Just
stupid human
beings living
off each other."*

— DYLAN KLEBOLD

Videotapes show Columbine shooters' rage

'Good wombs have borne bad sons,' one teen says

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

GOLDEN, Colo. — Videotapes made by two teen-agers as they planned a shooting massacre and their suicides at Columbine High School show them to be filled with hateful rage, hoping to kill 250 people, yet sympathetic to their parents for what they would soon endure.

"They're going to be put through hell once we do this," one of the killers, Eric Harris, said of his parents in the last of several tapes he made with Dylan Klebold. And as if to exonerate their parents from any guilt, remorse or responsibility, Harris quietly quotes Shakespeare: "Good wombs have borne bad sons."

The authorities showed the tapes to reporters yesterday after *Time* magazine reported on them in this week's edition, which was made available to the media on Sunday.

Some families of the victims were angered at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department for releasing the tapes, along with surveillance videos from the Columbine cafeteria, where no one was shot but the killers are seen

walking around students who are cowering behind overturned desks and chairs.

The pair made three tapes in the weeks leading to the April 20 assault, in which they killed 13 people and wounded two dozen others before turning their guns on themselves.

The tapes form a macabre documentary of the meticulous planning of the attack, which they called retaliation for what they describe as years of taunting from friends and relatives because of their unwillingness to dress and act as others wanted.

Laced with profanity and racial epithets, the tapes reflect two boys who concluded that they could no longer cope.

"If you could see all the anger I've stored over the past four years," Klebold says.

"More rage, more rage," Harris said. "I'm building it up."

The rage erupted at their school in the Denver suburb of Littleton, as the two seniors detonated bombs and marched through the library, where they shot and killed 12 students and a teacher before killing themselves.

Wayne Halverson, a spokesman for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, said yesterday that the tapes were being shown to reporters because *Time* magazine had violated its agreement with investi-

gators by using direct quotes from the tapes and the authorities feared "the potential for sensationalism and the resulting anguish to the victims' families."

But Diana Pearson, a spokeswoman for *Time*, said the magazine made no such agreement.

Krista Flannigan, a victim services consultant who has worked with many of the relatives of the shooting victims at Columbine, said some of the families were upset because the tapes were shown publicly before they had viewed them, but that others were glad the public had a chance to see the gunmen for what they were.

In all, the tapes, most of them shot in the Harris home, last more than two hours and were made between March 15 and sometime just before the shooting began, when the boys spent a little over a minute saying goodbye.

Harris says: "I just wanted to apologize to you guys. To everyone I love, I'm really sorry about all this."

Through much of the tapes, the boys talk extemporaneously about the frustrations of their lives and their plans for April 20, against a backdrop of obvious self-loathing and expressed hatred for all mankind.

Harris also says that after the killings, "We need to die, too."

Tapes

■ Continued from Page 1A

carried out their attack.

The tapes contain profane language and racial slurs.

In one segment, Harris and Klebold spend more than an hour discussing their hatred for humanity and their fellow students, whom they vow to kill. They name some of the classmates they hope to murder, although it isn't clear whether any of those students were killed or wounded.

The March 15 tape, filmed in the basement of Harris' home using a stationary camera, captures images of the two boys lounging in recliners.

It was after 1 a.m. They sip Jack Daniels from a quart bottle as they talk.

"I'm going to kill you all," Klebold says.

A moment later, Harris raises his sawed-off pump shotgun and points it at the camera.

As the tape rolls, Harris' parents, Wayne and Kathy Harris, sleep upstairs.

A couple times, Klebold warns his friend to talk more softly.

"You guys will all die, and it will be f—— soon," Harris says. "I hope you get an idea of what we're implying here. You all need to die. We need to die, too.

"We need to f—— kick-start the revolution here."

At one point in their March 15 tape, the teenage killers end their conversation to take a video tour of Harris' room, where their arsenal was stored.

Klebold carries the camera as Harris shows off pipe bombs, guns and ammunition.

The two brag about hiding their tools of death — and about the close calls along the way.

The boys talk openly about concocting their plan under the noses of unsuspecting parents and friends. They talk about the day Harris' parents found the tackle box — and took only the pipe bombs out of it.

They mention the time a clerk from Green Mountain Guns called his home. Wayne Harris answered the phone. The clips are in, the clerk said. Wayne Harris told the clerk he hadn't ordered any clips for a gun. But Harris said his father never asked whether the caller had the right phone number.

Had someone asked questions, April 20 might have been just another day, the boys say. "We

wouldn't be able to do what we're going to do," Klebold says.

Klebold recalls the time his parents walked into his bedroom while he was trying on his trench coat to see if it would conceal the shotgun underneath it. "They didn't even know it was there," Klebold says.

The killers' parents were frequent topics of some sections of the tapes.

"My parents are the best f—— parents I have ever known," Harris says. "My dad is great. I wish I was a f—— sociopath so I didn't have any remorse, but I do.

Klebold talks about his parents and how they taught him self-reliance. "I appreciate that," he says.

They dream of the large bombs that they plan to detonate against unsuspecting students in the school cafeteria.

And they hoped that one day Hollywood directors would fight for the right to tell their story. But they say they can't decide whether Steven Spielberg or Quentin Tarantino should direct the film, according to an excerpt cited by Time.

The tapes previously had been a closely held secret part of the sheriff's investigation.

The final report of the eight-month probe is expected to be released next month.

THE DAILY DISPATCH



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DAILY MEDITATION

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth. John 1:14

We wonder at the many mysteries of the incarnation. But how thankful we are for the central truth: Jesus came to reveal the loving heart of the Father who longs to redeem.

OUR OPINION

Kudos...

The Daily Dispatch Kudos this week go to the following:

- Tri-County teachers who recently learned that they have been certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. In Vance County, those included: **Susan Fletcher, Alison Short, Alice Hinson and Gail Washington**. In Warren County, **Rebecca Huffman** earned the certification.

- **The Vance County Board of Education**, for a special ceremony Monday night honoring the new board-certified teachers in Vance County Schools. One of the teachers honored told us how special the board's actions were to her.

- **Lt. S.S. Pearson** of the Henderson Police Department, who received a special award last month from the state Crime Prevention Association for outstanding contributions he has made to the group. We echo any award made to Lt. Pearson, who is one of our favorite people.

- **Hilary Delbridge**, a sophomore at Northern Vance High School, who was chosen recently to represent her school at the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar. She is the daughter of Jerry and Hilda Delbridge of Henderson.

- 8-year-old **Omar Bryant** of Henderson, who helped save his family from a fire early Monday morning, and **Henderson firefighters**, who revived Omar's 10-year-old sister after she was overcome by smoke.

If you have an item you'd like to submit for this column, please mail it to Kudos, c/o The Daily Dispatch, P.O. Box 908, Henderson, N.C. 27536; bring it by our offices at 304 S. Chestnut St.; fax it to (252) 430-0125; or e-mail it to amurray@hendersondispatch.com. We're sorry, but we cannot accept nominations over the telephone.

CRABBY ROAD

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World of confusion

Just browsing among things (principally) foreign...

Russia's unconscionable war on Chechnya has but one semi-rational explanation: Russian presidential politics. Boris Yeltsin almost single-handedly sealed the death of Soviet Leninist rule. Yeltsin may be a booby now, but he wants — commendably — to pass power democratically to a preferred successor.

The longtime front-runner to succeed Yeltsin has been Moscow's Mayor Yury Luzhkov —

a captive of former communists and current Mafiosi.

Yeltsin's latest and probably last chosen heir is Vladimir Putin, now prime minister.

Clearly Yeltsin/Putin saw winning back Chechnya, essentially lost four years ago, as the best and fastest way to circulate Putin's name favorably among Russian voters. Thus the Russian ruthlessness in Chechnya — and Putin's meteoric elevation from 2 percent to 35 percent in favorable Russian recognition. A clear, merciless Russian victory in Chechnya might indeed secure a Putin victory against Luzhkov in the race to succeed Yeltsin come June.

AND HERE is China, having loped home with American missile technology, (a) adamantly warning the United States against building a missile-defense system, while nevertheless (b) winning worldwide trade concessions and (c) locking up at least 35,000 Falun Gong spiritualists as enemies of the state. Where, please, is right reason regarding China — and where is the outrage about China's in-your-face war on its own people?

IN THE MIDDLE East — ever the Middle East — with Hillary loving-in with sweet Suha Arafat, (1) Jordan has freed and expelled four Hamas hombres, (2) Israel has moved to give away more land for "peace," while successfully testing for the first time its Arrow II anti-ballistic missile, and (3) Israel's Barak administration has approved new West Bank settlement housing at a five-month pace surpassing the annual pace of the dread Netanyahu administration.

FINALLY:

The federal government long strained to force Native Americans to stop speaking their native languages. Now the Defense Department has mustered the moxie to honor the last of the Comanche Indian "code talkers" who spoke to one another in Comanche to foil enemy code breakers during World War II. The Pentagon has named Oklahoman Charles Chibitty to its Hall of Heroes and given him the Knowlton Award for extraordinary contributions to military intelligence.

Seventeen Comanches served in Europe — and Chibitty is the lone survivor.

At Chibitty's induction, a Bureau of Indian Affairs official termed it a "great irony (that) only two or three generations after having been in conflict with the United States, our warriors would go forward and play such a crucial role in the victory over this country's enemies." Said Chibitty: "When I talk about my Comanche comrades, I always wonder why it took so long. ... They are not here to enjoy what I am getting after all these years."

The 'Why' of Columbine

Tapes provide an opportunity for us to see inside killers' minds

Some people were upset that *Time* magazine published a detailed description of the three chilling videotapes made by the Columbine High School killers.

I only regretted that someone had not written about the videotapes sooner.

The FBI has yet to release its final report on the killings, but this investigation is looking increasingly like a job for psychiatrists, not police.

The two perpetrators, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, are dead and they appear to have acted alone in the Littleton, Colo., massacre.

The big question now is why they killed 12 students and a teacher and how similar tragedies can be prevented.

In pursuit of those questions, we are better off having more information available to the public, not less.

The reluctance of the Jefferson County sheriff to release the tapes is understandable, considering the sensitive nature of this crime.

Besides, a lot of people would just as soon push the Littleton story out of sight, out of mind, as if the problem of kids killing each other could be made to disappear just that easily.

But information beats ignorance. The Littleton tragedy has set off something of a national panic.

Some schools have wisely improved their efforts to identify and help troubled teens and to encourage students to be nicer to each other.

Some schools have less wisely imposed such dubious security measures as metal detectors and rules that require see-through backpacks.

In some cases, students have been ostracized just for looking "different," which has long been a sin in the world of teen-agers.

Much of this confusion might be relieved if we knew more about the two teens who caused the tragedy. Even Wayne Holverson, the Jefferson County sheriff's

spokesman, was moved to acknowledge, while apologizing to Littleton residents for the alleged leak to *Time*, that the videotapes might "offer insight into the 'Why?' of Columbine."

The sheriff's office finally showed the footage Monday to reporters and victims' families in a session in which cameras and tape recorders were banned.

The showing came one day after *Time* published its detailed cover story, based on its own private viewing less than two weeks earlier.

The sheriff's department accused the magazine of violating an agreement not to quote from or refer to the tapes. The magazine denies it made any such promise.

Still, you can tell by the magazine's lengthy, almost-apologetic open letter, titled "Why we went back to Columbine," by Walter Isaacson, *Time*'s managing editor, that editors anguished over the decision.

What do we learn from the tapes? Much of the material apparently amplifies what the public already knows.

The tapes, which the two boys made right up to a half-hour before the shootings, seem to be a long, raving murder-suicide note.

Harris reportedly came off as the ringleader and Klebold pretty much amplified his pal's angry sentiments.

Harris boasted that he stopped taking his Luvox, a medication for depression, to let his anger build. He griped about moving around so much in his military family that it always left him having to start over "at the bottom of the ladder."

He was angry that people con-

stantly made fun of "my face, my hair, my shirts."

But most chilling to me is the persistent sense, just beneath the surface of their rambling rage, that the two boys wanted to get caught.

They boasted of how close their parents came to discovering their weapons stash.

They bragged of how easily they had fooled everyone at school. They howled at the teachers who failed to note their seemingly obvious messages in their classroom essays or on Harris' Web site.

Yet, one cannot help but wonder whether, beneath their laughter, there was not also a cry for someone to stop them.

It will take someone much wiser in the ways of mental illness than me to make some sense out of Harris' and Klebold's madness.

But this much seems obvious: The Columbine tragedy will be in vain if we don't get smarter about dealing with our teens, not only in troubled high-crime neighborhoods but also in the seemingly bucolic, upper-income suburbs that embody the modern American dream.

Every school shooting is a tragedy. But Columbine has shaken us up nationally far more than any of the rest precisely because it is the sort of school and community in which Americans tend to struggle most diligently to live and raise their families.

Harris and Klebold showed us how, amid economic plenty, young people can suffer a poverty of the spirit.

Everybody involved feels horribly guilty, in hindsight, about their failures to hear what the two teens were saying.

We have a chance to hear them now, thanks to the tapes. We should take that chance.

We should listen to these voices from the grave, if it will help us to do a better job of listening to the living.



CLARENCE PAGE

TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To our readers:

The ending of the following letter was inadvertently omitted in Friday's newspaper. We apologize for the mistake. Following is the full text of the letter.

Bell ringers needed for Salvation Army

To the editor,

I write this letter to my fellow citizens to appeal to you about the need for bell ringers for the Salvation Army's kettles.

On Monday, Maj. Bodell Heath told me that he had not one volunteer for the last week before Christmas and only half the number

needed for this week.

It literally breaks my heart that such a needed and worthwhile project will fail in its effort to feed our hungry, clothe our naked, provide fuel oil and turn on the electricity where an unpaid bill has caused the electric company to turn off.

Even though the Salvation Army does a credible job in locating the people with needs like those above, we are going to have some cold and hungry people in our town this Christmas.

The money simply isn't going to be there.

I've been a bell ringer for more than 20 years — many times chairman.

I know how our people give —

there isn't a town anywhere more caring or sharing.

But the Salvation Army must have volunteers.

You don't have to be a man or woman, a boy or a girl. Just a willing person standing with the bell in your hand, smiling. When someone drops money in your kettle, still smiling you say, "Thank you," then ad lib a "Merry Christmas."

You must give the impression the whole hour that you are there because it is such a pleasure to be around people who share of their worldly goods with those who are less fortunate.

Please call Maj. Bodell Heath at 438-7107.

Cecil U. Faulkner
Henderson

OUR OPINION

Bad judgment made in release of killers' tapes

As it turns out, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold had more than hatred on their minds when they planned out the attack at Columbine High School April 20 that left 13 others dead before the pair killed themselves.

Fame, or rather, infamy, was also on the agenda.

Thanks to bad judgment and the placing of one media entity above all others by a few high-ranking officials in the Jefferson County (Colo.) Sheriff's Department, the pair will likely get the former.

In the home videotapes made by the killers and released to and reviewed by Time Magazine this week, the two teenagers spew hate toward just about every other human being on the planet.

"It's humans I hate," says Klebold in one of the tapes.

Pretty simple. As a result, the two were pretty

during the rampage. There didn't appear to be specific targets, but rather, one specific motive.

They wanted to be famous. The pair talk in the videos about which director will handle their movie, either Steven Spielberg or Quentin Tarantino.

It's unlikely the pair thought case investigators would boost those hopes.

Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone, Undersheriff John Dunaway and Division Chief John Kiekbusch agreed to allow a Time reporter to view the tapes — under the condition, a sheriff's department spokesman says, that they would be used only as background information.

Time Magazine officials say there were no such restrictions placed upon them.

It's a he-said, she-said situation. That's not the issue.

The families of the Columbine victims weren't allowed to view the tapes until *after* Time hit the newsstand Monday. Neither was the local media, which has covered the tragedy daily since April 20. They were given a look at the tapes at a Monday news conference.

The sheriff's department claims the tapes had been withheld because they were evidence in the case. When it was determined they showed little, other than motivation and that Harris and Klebold acted alone, they were released to Time.

Why Time? If Sheriff Stone was going to release the tapes, then why not do it to the local press first? Why not show them to reporters from the Denver Post, which has been doing daily stories on the massacre since it occurred?

It took the death of 14 students and one teacher for Time to notice the city of Littleton, Colo. Why treat the magazine differently than any other media outlet?

The situation was handled like paparazzis bidding for a story or photo. Although Time paid no fee for the right to look at the tapes, they did offer an incentive: National exposure for local police officers.

Stone, along with his undersheriff, did get their pictures in the magazine, holding some of the weapons used by Harris and Klebold. Did national exposure for the pair mean the families' right to know came after the public's right to know?

To take the issue out of such a sensational crime, the decision should have been publicly made to release the tapes and then just release the tapes. Those who wanted to watch them could. Those who didn't want to didn't have to. And no preference is shown for anyone.

Some parents of victims have said the timing of the tapes' release couldn't be worse, that this Christmas will be hard enough without reading the rants and raves of Harris and Klebold.

That logic begs one question: *When* would have been a good time?

Any time of the year would be tough. Any major holiday. Near any birthday. At the beginning of the school year. At the end of the school year.

On the anniversary of the shooting.

Don't be upset about the timing. For most of the victims' families, there would never be a good time.

But those who lost loved ones in the April 20 massacre deserve to be angry for the way their sheriff's department handled the videotapes.

And members of the media everywhere should wonder what set Time above everyone else who has covered the tragic happenings in Littleton.

There shouldn't be any political motivation coming from the administration or preferential treatment. And the media should handle the coverage in a tasteful, sensitive manner, by sticking to the facts and direct reporting. In this situation it isn't proper to use the bodies of our dead to sensationalize or politicize a tragedy.

Columbine videos: Killers' anger raged, felt sorry for parents

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER — In videotapes laced with anger and apologies, the two teen-age Columbine High School gunmen said they planned to kill hundreds of people in their campus assault last spring, Time magazine reported.

"I hope we kill 250 of you," Dylan Klebold, 17, said on one of five tapes reviewed by the magazine, which reported on the videos today.

According to Time, Klebold predicted the moments prior to the April 20 attack would be the most "nerve-racking of my life, after the bombs are set and we're waiting to charge through the school. Seconds will be like hours. I can't wait."

But both Klebold and Eric Harris, 18, apologized to their parents during the recordings.

"They're going to be put through hell once we do this," Harris said. Addressing his parents directly, he added, "There's nothing you guys could do about this."

Klebold told his mother and father they had been "great parents" and he appreciated their teaching him "self-awareness, self-reliance."

"I'm sorry I have so much rage," he said.

Authorities allowed a Time reporter access to the five videos recorded in the weeks prior to the attack, in which the two seniors killed 12 students and a teacher before committing suicide. About 23 others were wounded.

Brian Rohrbough, whose son Daniel was one of the victims, lashed out at authorities after learning of the Time report.

"We were absolutely promised by the Jefferson County district attorney's office these would not be released," Rohrbough said.

Undersheriff John Dunaway said Time violated an agreement not to refer to the tapes in its story — a claim disputed by a magazine spokeswoman.

"No one ever asked us not to report on the contents of the tapes," Diana Pearson said. "We can assure you we had explicit discussions about how these tapes would be used and that what we saw would be on the record."

But Dunaway said Time correspondent Tim Roche was allowed to see portions of the videotapes only for background on a story he was writing about the Columbine investigation and the response of SWAT teams.

Authorities have known since shortly after the massacre that Harris and Klebold had plotted a gun and bomb attack they believed would leave many more than 15 people dead. The videos offered a more detailed glimpse into their motives and thoughts about the attack.

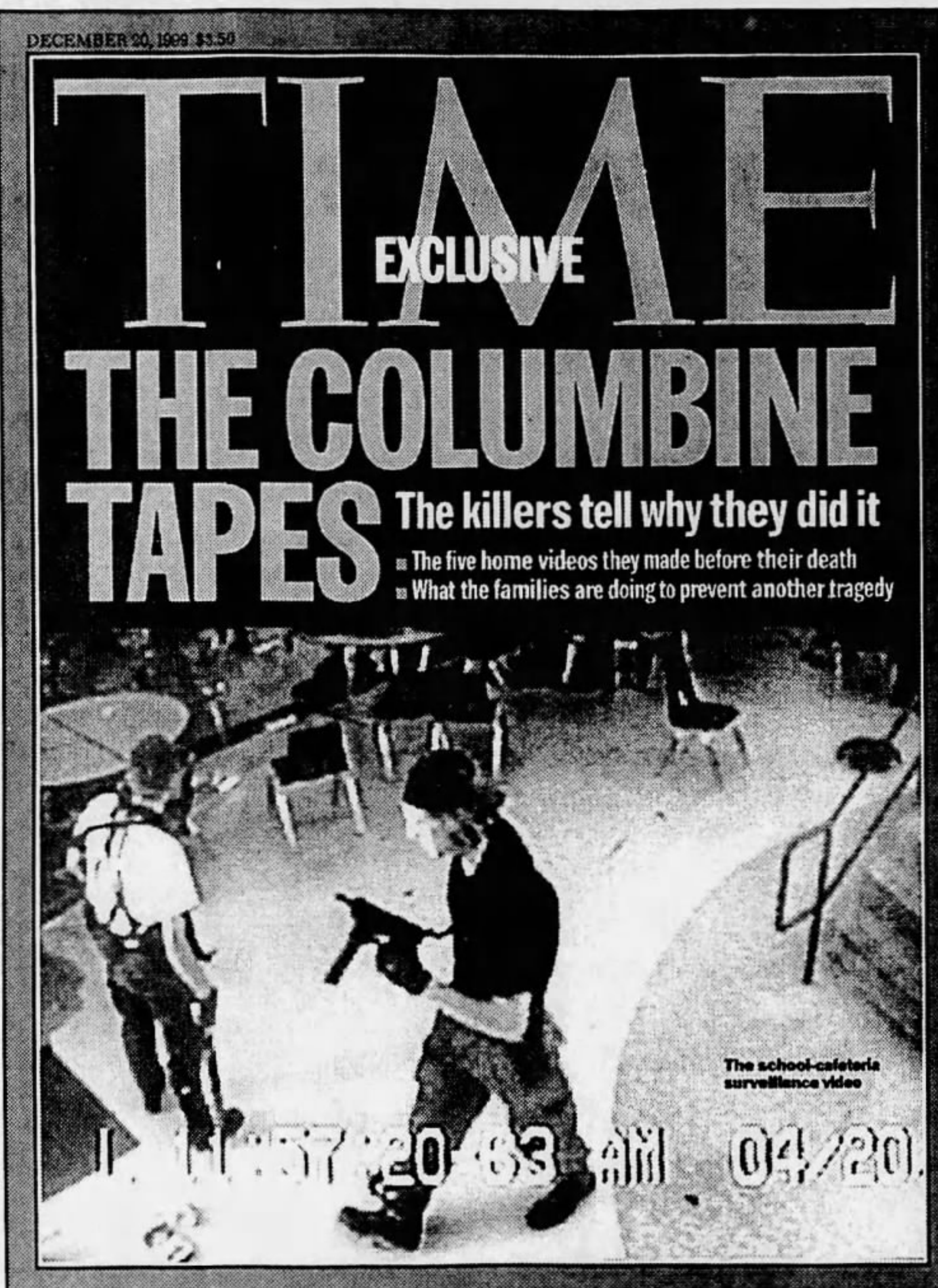
Those thoughts, in Harris' case, ranged from a Shakespeare quote — "Good wombs hath borne bad sons" — to an apparent reference to a video game: "It's going to be like (expletive) Doom. Tick, tick, tick, tick ... Ha!"

While the videos reinforce the idea that the pair were motivated in part by a desire for what they saw as revenge, they also pictured the suicidal plot as a route to immortality.

"Directors will be fighting over this story," Klebold said in one video. He and Harris discussed which director could be trusted with the script, mentioning Steven Spielberg and Quentin Tarantino, the report says.

According to the magazine, the two also talked about how easy it was to plot their attack without anybody noticing, with Klebold recalling his mother once saw a gun handle sticking out of his gym bag and assumed it was his BB gun.

Harris said they "came close" to being caught one day when a gun shop clerk called his house and told his father, who answered the phone, "Hey, your clips are in." But, according to Time, he said his father



The cover of this week's issue of Time magazine which features the details of five video tapes left behind by the Columbine High School killers.

told the clerk he had not ordered any clips and did not ask whether it was a wrong number.

The killers made their final tape on the morning of the massacre.

"It's a half-hour before Judgment Day," Klebold said. "I didn't like life very much. Just know I'm going to a better place than here."

Harris added, "I know my mom

and dad will be in shock and disbelief. I can't help it."

"It's what we had to do," Klebold interrupted. Then the two listed some favorite CDs and belongings they wanted to leave to friends.

Then Klebold snapped his fingers, and Harris spoke the last words.

"That's it," he said. "Sorry. Goodbye."

To some, Y2K is nothing but a humbug

JENNIFER KERR

Associated Press Writer

CITRUS HEIGHTS — The Patio Room at the Rusch Park community center is full of people, most of them senior citizens eager to learn whether one of California's newest cities will survive the Y2K bug.

But there is no panic. The biggest rush is for the free cheese and fruit offered after city and utility officials chant what has become the official Boy Scout-inspired Y2K mantra:

"I believe if you prepare as if you were preparing for a harsh winter storm, you will be prepared for Y2K," Police Chief Henry Serrano says.

Gene and Betty Ford, both 69 and retired from running a children's clothing store, sit calmly snacking on grapes and crackers after the talk.

"We think everything's been done that could be done," says Gene Ford.

His wife admits she has stored some basic supplies — "just enough to be prepared" — and has taken some ribbing from her children.

"I can use that anytime," she says of her small hoard.

In communities around the state, compacency is replacing anxiety among Y2K community groups formed in more panicky times.

Many community groups were formed in late 1998 and early 1999 to offer citizens information about the problem and ways they could prepare — ranging from storing

How to turn Y2K into a humbug

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trying to inoculate yourself against the Y2K bug? Here are tips from the state Office of Emergency Services:

- Prepare to be self-sufficient, without running water, electricity, gas and telephone for three to seven days; don't wait until the last minute to stock up.
- Store one gallon of water per person per day.
- Have nonperishable food, such as canned or dry basics, on hand for each person.
- Locate alternative sources for cooking and heating, such as camp stoves, barbecues, sleeping bags, blankets, wood for fireplaces.
- Have a bag packed in case you must leave home.
- Keep an extra supply of pre-

scription medicine or medical supplies and find alternatives for equipment running on electricity.

• Keep current copies of medical and legal records.

• Have a small amount of extra cash on hand.

• Have at least one telephone that doesn't use electricity.

• Keep your car's gas tank at least half full.

• Store extra food and water for pets and livestock.

• Obtain basic supplies, such as paper plates and utensils, flashlights, battery-operated radio, extra batteries, whistle, matches, toilet paper, plastic garbage bags, waterless hand soap, disinfectant, fire extinguisher, heavy gloves, duct tape, extra glasses or hearing aid, first-aid kit, wind-up clock, manual can opener.

basic supplies to putting in a garden to cooking in a solar oven.

John O'Brien, a special education classroom aide and driving school instructor in Chico, formed the Y2K Action Group in August 1998 and held meetings and workshops that attracted up to 180 people. Those ceased in April.

"The general public as a whole just stopped being interested," he said. He said a public relations campaign orchestrated by the federal government convinced people there

White House moves to head off Y2K panic

TED BRIDIS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Concerned that any technical failure in the earliest hours of Jan. 1 will be blamed on the Year 2000 computer problem, the White House is releasing figures showing how often some systems typically break down. It is not a pretty picture.

Lights go out. Computers crash. Flights are delayed, baggage is lost. ATMs run out of cash, cellular calls won't go through and cable TV is showing static.

In the increasingly complex world of technology, those disasters can occur individually all in a day's work — whether or not that day is the upcoming New Year's.

The White House is releasing the information as a precaution, to avert public panic at the first sign of a disruption in electricity or another essential service that may coincide with the date rollover but was not caused by the computer glitch.

Some failures may take weeks of study before Y2K can be blamed or dismissed as the cause.

"Every day things go wrong, and nobody pays much attention to them, nobody thinks twice about it," said John Koskinen, President Clinton's top Y2K adviser. "But any of those things that happen on January 1st will immediately be presumed to be the indication of a Y2K problem."

Even though the nation's electrical utilities are more than 99 percent reliable, winter storms can darken neighborhoods and entire regions.

Koskinen puts odds at 50-50 a major ice storm or blizzard will strike America during that critical New Year's weekend.

In 1989, for example, a failed switch shut down electricity on New Year's Eve for 90,000 citizens in Maine.

The Washington-based Edison Electric Institute said in a report for the White House that any power failure over the Jan. 1 weekend "is almost certain to have occurred because of one of the usual reasons" rather than the Y2K bug.

"We have interruptions in the power grid all the time," said Sen. Robert Bennett, chairman of the Senate's Year 2000 Committee. "We have interruptions in the flow of oil around the world all the time. We have all kinds of accidents that take place in computer-land, and those that happen on January 1st, people will say were caused by Y2K."

Computers and their programming code are at the heart of the Year 2000 problem, when devices that aren't sufficiently tested or repaired could misinterpret the year "00" as 1900. That could corrupt important electronic records, miscalculate utility bills and interest rates or cause a variety of havoc with automated systems.

But software already is so enormously complex that computers sometimes fail. Microsoft Corp., whose Windows software runs most of the world's personal computers, fields roughly 29,000 phone calls daily from customers using more than 4,000 programs, who complain their PCs aren't working right.

Gov. Gray Davis's Y2K chief and director of the Department of Information Technology. The last lingering problems with medical devices at the state's veterans' homes in Barstow and Yountville are getting intensive attention in the final weeks.

As for counties and other local governments, some started late and lacked technical resources, but they are meeting the challenge with solutions or contingency plans, Cortez said.

"There's a calming effect that's occurring," he said.

The California Business Roundtable and the California Chamber of Commerce this week announced that the state's businesses are ready.

Their survey of 400 large, medium and small business leaders found that 90 percent are "extremely confident" their company's computer systems are prepared. Eighty-four percent feel any problems will be either moderately or not-at-all serious.

In the northern part of the state, Sen. Wesley Chesbro's largely rural district stretching from Sonoma County up the North Coast to the Oregon border, many people are already self-sufficient, prepared to deal with earthquakes, floods and mudslides, the Arcata Democrat said.

"Historically, people in my district already have plenty of food in storage and alternate sources of heat and light," he said.

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Teen killers caught on chilling tapes

By DAN LUZADDER
KEVIN VAUGHAN
and KAREN ABBOTT
Scripps Howard News Service

LITTLETON, Colo. — A half-hour before they launched the deadliest school shooting in U.S. history, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold took a couple of minutes to say goodbye.

It was just before 11 a.m. on

IN DEPTH: Crime

April 20. They clicked on the video camera one last time in Harris' suburban home.

"I just wanted to apologize to you guys for any crap," the 18-year-old Harris says. "To everyone I love, I'm really sorry about all this. I know my mom and dad will be just (expletive) shocked beyond belief."

Klebold, 17, takes a moment to record a message to his mom and dad. "Just know I'm going to a better place," he says. "I didn't like life too much, and I know I'll be happy wherever the (expletive) I go."

While the teenagers express remorse in some tapes, they spew plans for mass murder in others.

"The most deaths in U.S. history," Klebold says.

As Klebold says this, Harris kisses the gun he's cradling in his arms. He has nicknamed it "Arlene" after a character in the Doom video game.

"Hopefully," Harris adds.

"We're hoping," Klebold says. "We're hoping. I hope we kill 250 of you."

Hatred for humanity

The chilling messages were in a series of videotapes that Jefferson County sheriff's investigators found in Harris' home the day of the shootings at Columbine High School that killed 12 students and one teacher. Harris and Klebold then took their own lives.

The tapes, made in Harris' home in the weeks before the attack on the school, were reviewed Sunday by the Denver Rocky Mountain News. Under-sheriff John Dunaway allowed the News to watch the tapes after Time magazine released a story Sunday containing excerpts from the films.

The existence of the tapes had come to light Nov. 12, when sheriff's Detective Kate Battan, the lead investigator, read excerpts during the sentencing of Mark Manes, 22, who sold



Associated Press

Eric Harris, left, and Dylan Klebold, right, are shown in a still photo taken from a videotape made by a cafeteria surveillance camera during their April 20 shooting rampage at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo.

the killers one of their guns.

Harris and Klebold made the home videos on several occasions — the first slightly more than a month before they carried out their attack.

The tapes contain profane language and racial slurs.

In one segment, Harris and Klebold spend more than an hour discussing their hatred for humanity and their fellow students, whom they vowed to kill. They name some of the classmates they hope to murder, although it isn't clear whether any of those students were killed or wounded.

The March 15 tape, filmed in the basement of Harris' home using a stationary camera, captures images of the two boys lounging in recliners.

It was after 1 a.m. They sip Jack Daniel's from a quart bottle as they talk.

"I'm going to kill you all," Klebold says.

A moment later, Harris raises his sawed-off pump shotgun and points it at the camera.

As the tape rolls, Harris' parents, Wayne and Kathy Harris, sleep upstairs.

A couple times, Klebold warns his friend to talk more softly.

"You guys will all die, and it will be (expletive) soon," Harris says. "I hope you get an idea of what we're implying here. You all need to die. We need to die, too."

"We need to (expletive) kick-start the revolution here."

The disturbing images shocked investigators.

"You look at it, and it's like little kids playing army," said sheriff's Division Chief John Kiebusch, who headed the investigation. "But then you think of the terror that went with it, and it's sickening."

At one point in their March 15 tape, the teenage killers end their conversation to take a video tour of Harris' room, where their arsenal was stored.

Klebold carries the camera as Harris shows off pipe bombs, guns and ammunition.

Sitting on the floor beneath some magazines is a white plastic box filled with pipe bombs and ammunition — shotgun shells and two boxes of 9 mm bullets.

The boys talk about a coffee

► See Killers, A5



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Continued from A4

can full of gunpowder.

Harris opens a drawer on his desk and pulls out a black, two-bell alarm clock and talks about using it to construct a bomb. He opens a black plastic box full of carbon-dioxide cartridges wrapped with duct tape, fuses protruding from the end of each.

The tape held buckshot against the homemade grenades.

Harris opens another desk drawer, revealing a piece of the handle of one of their sawed-off shotguns. Then he pulls out a black-handled combat knife in a sheath, a swastika scratched into the surface. Hanging on a wall is a 50-foot coil of green fuse.

Harris opens a CD box, showing off a receipt from Green Mountain Guns for 13 10-round clips for a 9 mm carbine rifle the two later carried into Columbine.

Then he pulls a CD case from a bookshelf. Behind it is hidden several large pipe bombs.

The two brag about hiding their tools of death — and about the close calls along the way.

Harris shows off a black tackle box with his bomb-making equipment inside.

The boys talk openly about concocting their plan under the noses of unsuspecting parents and friends. They talk about the day Harris' parents found the tackle box — and took only the pipe bombs out of it.

They mention the time a clerk from Green Mountain Guns called his home. Wayne Harris answered the phone.

The clips are in, the clerk said. Wayne Harris told the clerk he hadn't ordered any clips for a gun. But Harris said his father never asked whether the caller had the right phone number.

Had someone asked questions, April 20 might have been just another day, the boys say. "We wouldn't be able to do what we're going to do," Klebold says.

"You guys will all die, and it will be (expletive) soon. I hope you get an idea of what we're implying here. You all need to die. We need to die, too."

'Goodbye'

Klebold recalls the time his parents walked into his bedroom while he was trying on his trench coat to see if it would conceal the shotgun underneath it. "They didn't even know it was there," Klebold says.

Harris recounts the day he was carrying a gym bag he called his "terrorist bag" through his house. His mother saw the butt of a gun sticking out of the zipper, but she assumed it was nothing more sinister than his BB gun.

At one point, Klebold backs out of the room and pretends to be Harris' mother.

Harris waves at the camera. "Hi, mom," he says.

The killers' parents were frequent topics of some sections of the tapes.

"My parents are the best (expletive) parents I have ever known," Harris says. "My dad is great. I wish I was a (expletive) sociopath so I didn't have any remorse, but I do."

"This is going to tear them apart," he says. "They will never forget it."

Then, addressing his parents directly, Harris adds: "There is nothing you guys could have done to prevent any of this."

Klebold says he could imagine his parents' guilt: "If only we could have reached them sooner, or found this tape."

Harris adds: "If only we would have searched their room. If only we would have asked the right questions."

Harris talks about his mother being thoughtful, bringing him

candy and Slim Jims.

"I really am sorry about all this," he says.

Then Klebold speaks.

"They gave me my (expletive) life," Klebold says of his parents. "It's up to me what I do

with it."

Harris shrugs. "My parents might have made some mistakes that they weren't really aware of."

Klebold talks about his parents and how they taught him self-reliance. "I appreciate that," he says.

But just as they worry about the toll their rampage will take on their parents, they say they hope any survivors will go insane. "I hope people have flashbacks," Harris says.

They speak at length about all the people who had wronged them.

"You've given us (expletive) for years," Klebold says. "You're (expletive) going to pay for all the (expletive). We don't give a (expletive) because we're going

to die doing it."

They dream of the large bombs that they plan to detonate against unsuspecting students in the school cafeteria.

And they hoped that one day Hollywood directors would fight for the right to tell their story. But they say they can't decide whether Steven Spielberg or Quentin Tarantino should direct the film, according to an excerpt cited by Time.

The tapes previously had been a closely held secret part of the sheriff's investigation.

The final report of the eight-month probe is expected to be released next month.

But even then, sheriff's officials have said they expected to

withhold the tapes and other key evidence from public view, citing the ongoing investigation and fears that they would hurt the families of those killed and wounded at Columbine.

The last tape, made a short time before Harris and Klebold headed to Columbine, begins with Harris speaking, saying goodbye to his parents.

"It's what we had to do," Klebold cuts in.

The killers then offer the contents of their rooms to two of their friends.

"That's it," Harris finally says. "Sorry. Goodbye."

Then Klebold sticks his face into the frame.

"Goodbye."

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Release of videos angers Columbine families

By HOLLY KURTZ
and LYNN BARTELS
Scripps Howard News Service

LITTLETON, Colo. — Parents of the Columbine High victims are outraged with police for showing painful videotapes of Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris plotting to kill their loved ones to the news media before the families had a chance to see them.

They say Sheriff John Stone repeatedly refused their requests to see the tapes.

"I don't know who to be more upset with, Time magazine or the sheriff's department," said Connie Michalik, mother of wounded Columbine student Richard Castaldo.

Families of the Columbine vic-

tims watched the videotapes Monday for the first time, and "It was all very bad," said Brad Bernall, whose daughter Cassie died in the massacre.

The viewing came just hours after the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office apologized for showing the tapes to a Time reporter before the families.

Investigators seized three homemade videotapes from Harris' home in the days after the April 20 shooting that left 13 dead and about two dozen wounded.

The tapes show the killers painstakingly planning the attack they hoped would produce a high body count, a cult-like fan club and famous film directors

vying to tell their story.

Dale Todd, whose son Evan was injured in the school library, said he doesn't blame the boys' parents because the teens had hidden what they were up to. "They were the kids next door," he said. "They could be anybody's kid."

Time created a frenzy when it announced Sunday that it had seen the tapes and had made them their cover story. Because the magazine had seen the tapes, the sheriff's office agreed to the Denver Rocky Mountain News' request Sunday to view the tapes.

All of the media were shown the tapes on Monday under the condition that no audio or videotapes be made. Viewing for the families was later that afternoon.

Sheriff's officials apologized for causing the families pain. But they defended their actions by saying the Time reporter agreed to use the tapes as background, not information in an article.

"The only thing we did wrong was trust Time," Deputy Wayne Holverson said.

Time denies having any such arrangement.

Brian Rohrbough, whose son was killed April 20, heaped blame on the sheriff's office. "Jefferson County is lying through their teeth now," he said.

But Larry Nimmo, whose step-daughter Rachel Scott was the first one killed, said he believes the Time reporter "snookered" the sheriff. "There's no reason to believe they didn't lie," he said of Time.

Tom Mauer, whose son Daniel died in the attack, said he couldn't believe the tapes were released during the holiday season and he called the sheriff's office. He said Undersheriff John Dunaway called him back and apologized.

The sheriff's department administration approved showing the tapes to Time, Holverson said.



Eric Harris (left) and Dylan Klebold are shown in a still photo taken from a videotape made by a cafeteria surveillance camera during the April 20, 1999 shooting rampage at Columbine High

School in Littleton, Colo. Families of victims of the massacre are outraged that they were not shown several videotapes before the media was given the opportunity to view them. (AP)

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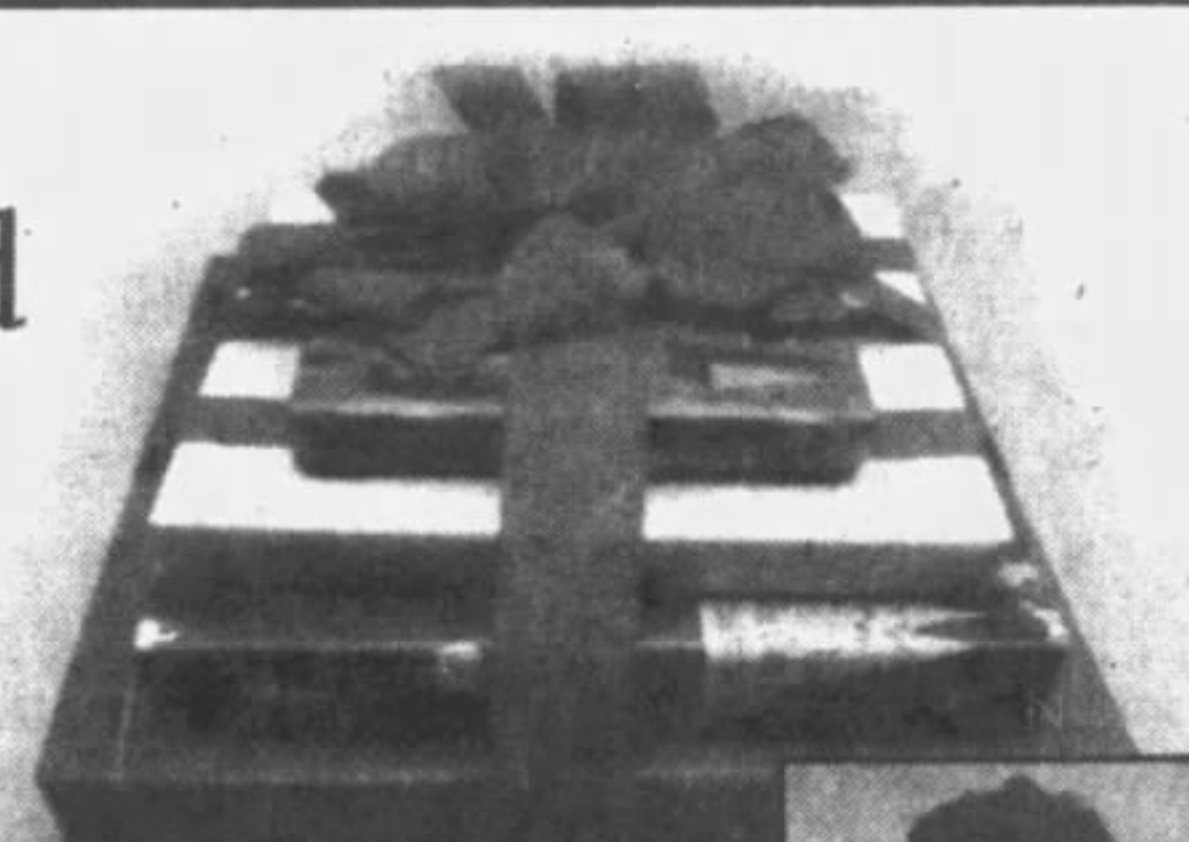
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Columbine killer's videotape reveals his bedroom concealed an arsenal

By LYNN BARTELS

SCRIPPS HOWARD

LITTLETON, Colo. — "Let me take you on a tour of my room," Columbine senior Eric Harris says to the camera.

What a tour it is.

He has an alluring poster of Pamela Lee Anderson on his wall — along with 50 feet of green, coiled fuse.

He has rows of CDs — with pipe bombs stashed behind.

He has an old box from a BB gun — with a sawed-off shotgun hidden inside.

Welcome to Eric Harris' madness, a basement bedroom in a suburban home. The issue of whether Wayne and Kathy Harris should have known more about their son's activities was raised again this week after homemade videos of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were made public.

That taped tour might be the most crucial piece of evidence in proving the Harrises and Klebolds are liable for what their sons did at Columbine High on April 20, Denver attorney Scott Robinson said.

In one tape, Harris says: "Thank God my parents [didn't] search my room. They would have found so much s..."

Harris' and Klebold's parents are being sued by Michael and Vonda Shoels, whose son Isaiah was one of the 13 people murdered at Columbine before the gunmen killed themselves.

"Without the tape, the Shoels didn't have much to work with in terms of parental neglect," Robinson said.

Most of the weaponry Harris and Klebold accumulated was stored at the Harrises' house, some in clever hiding places, other pieces easy to find by opening a drawer or lifting a lid.

The Harrises, like the Klebolds, have never publicly talked. But the Harrises had known for several years that their youngest son had problems.

Sometime in late 1997 or early 1998, Columbine parent Judy Brown said she told the Harrises that their son became violent when she confronted him about a car windshield he broke.

At the same time, the Browns' eldest son, Brooks, told Kathy Harris that her son had been sneaking out at night and vandalizing the neighborhood.

In January 1998, Harris and Klebold were arrested for breaking into a van.

Sometime between then and the shootings, Eric Harris said his father found a homemade pipe bomb in his room.

And Harris said on the videotapes that their plans were almost foiled when his father took a call from a gun dealer letting him know his clips were in.

But Harris apparently still

wasn't worried about being found out. Klebold and he taped their tour of his bedroom in the early hours of March 15 as the Harrises slept.

"Sssh," Klebold says. "Your mom can hear a bat breathing."

"She hears nothing," Harris answers.

It was a viewing, they said, of "all our illegal stuff."

The tour begins with Harris showing off plastic gloves taken from a doctor's office. They're

useful, he says, in building pipe bombs.

As Klebold pans to the bombs, his voice becomes almost reverent: "Beautiful. Oh my God."

Don Fleming, whose daughter Kelly died in the shootings, said he was surprised to learn what Harris kept in his room. But he added he didn't want to criticize the gunmen's parents. "They've got their hell to go through. I've got mine. It's two different hells, but it's still hell."

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Columbine killers' videotapes: grim story important to nation

The audio-video news machine fills our living room with the night's big TV story — and it is news we needed to hear. But it is followed by a rush of complaints from people who apparently think we should not have heard this news at all — and that is sadly wrong.

The news was based on *Time* magazine's exclusive cover story: A richly-detailed account of psycho-sicko videotapes made by two warped teenage boys with bombs and guns shortly before they rained terror and murder upon Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo.

It was news that we needed to know because it alerted people who lead everyday lives and people who lead our cultural entertainment industry to what those teenagers were thinking when they schemed to kill as many innocent classmates as they could. What drove them to do it and how they acquired their sick skills — tools for preventing future massacres.

We learned that these two youths with their Nazi hatreds were bent on a venge-



Martin Schram

Scripps Howard
News Service

ful payoff for years of taunting and being treated as misfits. Eric Harris said he hated the fact that people made fun of "my face, my hair, my shirts." Dylan Klebold said: "If you could see all the anger I've stored over the past four ... years."

We learned that they were able to stockpile bombs and guns because their parents never searched their rooms. Klebold recalled the time his parents walked in as he was trying on his black trench coat to see if it concealed his shotgun — "they didn't even know it was there."

We learned that these kids were self-schooled on how to deliver death by one of our cultural industry's profit-makers — a gruesome video game called "Doom." We also learned that they

thought Hollywood would rush to glorify their heinous crime with a movie that would make them famous.

"Directors will be fighting over this story," Klebold said. And they debated whether Steven Spielberg or Quentin Tarantino should make the film.

But before we can contemplate the cultural perversion of all that, we need to remember that we almost didn't get to learn any of the above.

For the same TV news stories about this videotape also featured the complaints of the sheriff of Jefferson County who had held this information for some time and never made it public. He and his deputies insist that *Time's* reporters were only allowed to see the tape to understand "the flavor" of what the two boys were saying and were not to have made any of the specifics public — a contention that the magazine flatly disputes, saying there were no ground rules stated when they were permitted to view the tape.

These TV newscasts also carried other

objections that tug at our hearts — but upon reflection, we know they represent anguish that is misdirected. Families of slain students say the sheriff had promised them that the reports were never going to become public. But wait. To keep these tapes from the public would have been a tragic crime in its own right. It would have been a crime against the public's right — and need — to know.

The sheriff should have made sure it all became public, not because it would whet our tabloid tastes but because it just might save lives, somewhere, sometime.

The reasoning is not unlike that of a very different case with a very different public imperative for the public's right to know: the case of the Pentagon Papers, where the people's right and need to learn how and why their government got them embroiled in the Vietnam War was considered so important that not an official secret classification was judged sufficient to bar newspapers from publishing the contents.

This time the news was far more imperative — avoiding a future tragedy.

Parents, students, teachers, and principals everywhere need to reflect and rethink upon the warning signs we miss and the thoughtless acts by which we may drive psychologically weak children to commit senseless acts.

Meanwhile America's cultural profit-bent establishment needs to do some rethinking as well. Do we really need those gory video games that can serve as macabre training videos?

And Hollywood's mogul elite need to ask whether those youths were really wrong when they thought Hollywood would want to memorialize their sick crime as *cinema verite*. Messrs. Spielberg and Tarantino ought to be devastated that even these misshapen minds would even think such a thing.

Hollywood's glitterati need to speak out so loudly that all other warped minds cannot possibly misunderstand: There will be no movies that glorify such sick deeds. There are depths to which even the lowest of our cultural denominators will not descend.

Just say no way.

Fodder for prosecution

Killers' tour tape damning

By Lynn Bartels

Scripps Howard News Service

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"What surely will figure in any trial are the videotaped images of Eric's room, a sort of 'Lifestyle of the Young and Wicked,'" he said.

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— Lynn Bartels is a reporter for the Rocky Mountain News in Denver.

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Continued From Page A1

epithets, the tapes reflect two boys who concluded that they could no longer cope with everyday life.

"If you could see all the anger I've stored over the past four years," Klebold says.

"More rage, more rage," Harris said. "I'm building it up."

Wayne Halverson, a spokesman for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, said yesterday that the tapes were being shown to reporters because *Time* had violated its agreement with investigators by using direct quotes from the tapes and the authorities feared "the potential for sensationalism and the re-

sulting anguish to the victims' families."

He said that investigators agreed to screen them for *Time* "for background purposes only" to provide information about the motives of the killers.

Diana Pearson, a spokeswoman for *Time*, said that the magazine made no such agreement nor did the authorities insist on any restrictions.

The homemade tapes, most of them shot in the Harris home, last more than two hours and were made between March 15 and sometime just before the shooting began, when the boys spent a little more than a minute saying goodbye.

Harris says: "I just wanted to apologize to you guys. To everyone

I love, I'm really sorry about all this."

Klebold adds: "Just know I am going to a better place than here."

Through much of the tapes, the boys talk extemporaneously about the frustrations of their lives and their plans for April 20, against a backdrop of obvious self-loathing and expressed hatred for all mankind, especially minority groups, whom they belittle repeatedly with ugly racial epithets.

"What is society? Just stupid human beings living off each other," says Klebold at one point.

The tapes provide new insight into the most perplexing question in the aftermath of the shootings: How could two teen-age boys from comfortable middle-class families have built up so much anger and

rage to shoot innocent classmates at random?

Some of the answer becomes quickly obvious as the two boys take turns talking into the camera, recalling all the people who they say slighted, taunted or mistreated them. The list includes elementary-school classmates, relatives and many of the teen-agers who attend Columbine.

The boys also recount several episodes in which they said that their plans might have been interrupted if their parents had exercised more curiosity about their activities.

Harris is especially lucid in these moments, leaving the impression that perhaps he wished that his parents, Wayne and Kathy Harris, had interceded.

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INVESTIGATION

On 6-29-99, at about 1545 hours, I removed item #233 from the evidence vault. Item #233 is a micro cassette player containing a micro cassette tape. Item #233 was taken from the Harris residence during the execution of the search warrant on 4-20-99. This item was located on the kitchen table. I copied the micro cassette tape after having removed it from the tape player using gloved hands. I then returned item #233 to the evidence vault. A copy of the tape was provided to Investigator Kate Battan.

The micro cassette player and tape was labeled "Nixon." The voice on the beginning of the tape appears to be that of Eric Harris. The voice is familiar to me from viewing video tapes in which Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold spend a great amount of time talking. On the micro cassette tape the male voice indicates reason why these things are happening and states it will happen in "less than nine hours now." He goes on to say, "People will die because of me," and "It will be a day that will be remembered forever." This portion of the tape only lasts a few moments. After that there appears to be a discussion between numerous individuals, including a male voice which appears to have an oriental accent.

DISPOSITION Open

INVESTIGATION

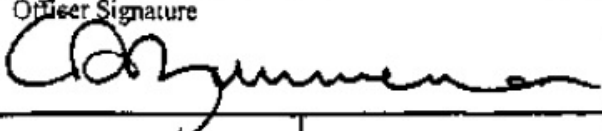
On 4-24-99, I opened item #200 from the JCSO evidence vault. Inside item #200 is a Sony 8mm video camera with serial #74415. The camera was engraved on the side "Columbine High School." The battery was not attached to the camera. Using gloved hands I attached the battery and removed the tape from within the camera, using the eject button. The battery was engraved "CHS LMC". The tape had a hand written label, "Top Secret Rampart." FBI Special Agents John Elvig and Jeff Diehl viewed the video tape with me.

The tape begins with Eric Harris utilizing the video camera and video taping Dylan Klebold. On the floor are laid out numerous pipe bombs, to include three Harris describes as the "Charlie Batch" and states they are two inches in diameter and six inches in length; six which appear to be about one inch in diameter and about six inches in length; and twelve which appear to be about one and one half inches in diameter and also about six inches in length. All of these pipe bombs are wrapped in duct tape. Also on the floor is a sawed off shotgun which Harris refers to as "Arlene." While Harris is video taping the shotgun, it appears that "Arlene" is etched into the side of the gun. Also, on the floor is a black long gun which he refers to as a carbine. Thirteen clips are observed on the floor. Harris specifically states that they were from Green Mountain Guns and states, "Yes they did have the right number." Also observed on the floor are two boxes of what appear to be 9mm bullets. Harris points out "My bandolier of stuff", and states it will be filled with "napalm." Also on the floor is a black plastic box which is filled with duct taped items Harris describes as twenty-nine "crickets", and states they are his grenades. Harris then gives the camera to Klebold who video tapes Harris holding some of the guns. The tape then stops and starts again with Harris wearing black BDU's, no shirt and a web type harness, carrying the 9mm carbine attached to a sling, holding the shotgun. At one point Harris places the shotgun into one of the cargo pockets, and then with a web strap secures it, so that it is at his side. Klebold makes a comment about Harris as a "soon to be eighteen year old." This would place the filming of this portion as occurring prior to April 9th. Both of the guns Harris refers to as a carbine and "Arlene" appear to be the same guns which were collected at the scene at Columbine High School. At one point you can hear Klebold refer to "my Tec," and states he wants to do something with it "this weekend, maybe tomorrow." At the same time Klebold says, "My parents are going to fucking Passover," which would place the filming of this tape prior to 4-1-99.

Klebold moves from filming Harris in his lower level family room of his parents residence at [REDACTED] Street, to filming inside Eric Harris's bedroom. I recognize the rooms inside this residence as I executed a search warrant at that residence on 4-20-99. Klebold films the west window inside Harris' room, and calls it a "bunker" and says, "You can't see it, it's buried there " Then he says, "That's why it's called a bunker."

The camera is stopped and re-started again. During the next portion of the film Eric Harris is alone inside of a moving car Harris is the driver. The camera seems to be recording him from the dashboard. It is dark outside, during this portion of the tape and it appears there are raindrops on the window of the car. At one point you see a street a sign that says "Federal." There is music playing in the car which is fairly loud. As a result it is difficult to understand what Harris is saying at times. At one point he references the "The Black Jack Crew" and specifically mentions "Jason" and "Chris." Harris says, "You guys are very cool " He also says, "Sorry dudes, I had to do, what I had to do." Harris also mentions, "Angel," "Phil," and "Bob." Harris says that 'Bob is one of the coolest guys I've ever met in my life, except for being an alcoholic." Harris also says he's, going to miss Bob. At one point Harris states, "It is a weird feeling knowing you're going to be dead in 2 ½ weeks." Harris also mentions not being able to decide "if we should do it before or after prom." At the end of this portion of this video tape Harris mentions, wishing he could have re-visited Michigan and "old friends." At this point he becomes silent and appears to start crying and appears to wipe a tear from the left side of his face. At this point he reaches over towards the camera and it is shut off.

When the video tape resumes it appears that Eric Harris is now holding the camera while he video tapes Dylan Klebold. This is occurring within Dylan Klebold's bedroom, at his parents residence at [REDACTED] Road. This residence is also known to me as I executed a search warrant at that residence on 4-21-99. Klebold appears to be wearing black BDU's, a black t-shirt with "Wrath" in red print across the front. Klebold is attaching something to his pants which appears to be suspenders, black in color Klebold also attaches some sort of ammo type pouch to his belt or suspenders, which is tan in color, and also a green canvas looking pouch to his right shin. Klebold removes some of the items from an open case on the floor. This appears to be either a small suitcase or hard sided briefcase. Klebold takes a sawed off shotgun and places it into a cargo pocket on his pants and then attaches it with webbing so that it stays in place. Klebold has what appears to be the Tec 9 (which was removed from him at the crime scene) on a sling, over his shoulder. Klebold makes some comment about his "50 round clip." Klebold also

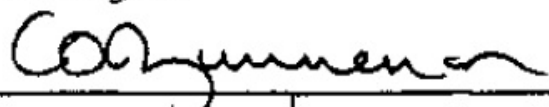
Officer Signature 	Unit X-31	Number 076	Supervisor Initials and Date	A	JC- 001-010375	Page 2 of 10
ORIGINAL	INVESTIGATOR	VICTIM SERVICES	OTHER	ASAF3 4/98 JCSD/3674		

mentioned Brandon Larson and his head being on his knife. Klebold mentions "Robyn" and going to prom with her. Klebold states he didn't want to go. Then also states, his parents are paying for it. Harris makes a comment about having three bags to use. They also talk about wanting to "practice" the next couple of nights. Harris mentions that they got "lasers and more propane today." He also mentions four big black containers and two of some sort of other fuel, the type of which is inaudible. Klebold and Harris begin talking about writing poems in "Kelly's class today," and how ridiculous it was.

They then begin talking about the double barrel shotgun. Klebold says, "Thank's Mr. Steven's." Klebold then begins telling Harris, "He knew I was fucking buying it." Klebold is getting dressed and he puts on his long black trench coat and says, "I'm fat on this side," and then begins talking about how he looks "fat with all the stuff on." Klebold tries to toss the Tec 9 into his hand from the position where it was hanging on the sling. The coat prohibited him from doing that. Klebold then says, "I'll have to take the coat off." He then begins complaining about how he doesn't want to take his coat off and states he likes his coat. They then begin discussing the "fucking snow is gay" in relation to the weather outside saying that they "hope the shit clears out by Tuesday, actually Sunday." Harris states that he "needs dry weather for my fires."

The video tape is then again shut off and re-started. This time the recording is in the family room on the main level of the Harris residence, on [REDACTED]. Again, I recognize the room as I conducted the search warrant on 4-20-99. Harris is filming and states, "Say it now." Klebold states, "Hey mom. Gotta go. It's about half an hour before our little judgement day. I just wanted to apologize to you guys for any crap this might instigate as far as (inaudible) or something. Just know I'm going to a better place than here. I didn't like life too much and I know I'll be happier wherever the fuck I go. So I'm gone. Good-bye. Reb..." Klebold then takes the camera and is filming Harris. Harris states, "Yea...Everyone I love I'm really sorry about all this. I know my mom and dad will be just like just fucking shocked beyond belief. I'm sorry alright. I can't help it." Klebold then interjects, "We did what we had to do." Harris then resumes, "Morris, Nate if you guys live I want you guys to have whatever you want from my room and the computer room." Klebold then states they can also have his possessions. Harris then continues, "Susan sorry. Under different circumstances it would've been a lot different. I want you to have that fly cd." Both then say "Good-bye".

During this portion Klebold is wearing a black baseball style hat backwards, with a "B" outlined in white on the back of the hat.

Officer Signature 		Unit K-31	Number 0174	Supervisor Initials and Date	JC- 001-010376	Page 3
ORIGINAL	INVESTIGATOR	VICTIM SERVICES		OTHER		of 10
						ASAF3 4/98 JCSD/1674

Klebold has a plaid shirt, which appears to be either black or dark blue with white. The shirt is untucked. He is wearing black BDU type pants tucked into military style lace-up boots. Harris is also wearing a plaid shirt which appears to be black or dark blue with white. It appears there is a white t-shirt under the plaid shirt. The lower portion of Harris' body is not visible. Also on the floor are briefly visible several bags. One appears to be a large maroon bag.

Two copies were made of the 8mm tape taken from evidence item #200, by myself and Special Agent John Elvig. A copy was locked in my desk drawer. A copy was given to Special FBI Agent Jeff Diehl to transport to the command post for this incident. I booked the 8mm tape which I removed from item #200 back into the evidence vault as item #333.

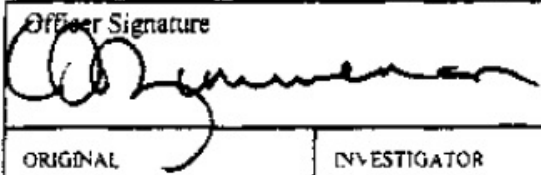
I removed item #265 from the JCSO evidence vault and opened it and Special Agent Elvig and I viewed the 8mm tape. This tape is also Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris in the basement family room at the Harris residence at [REDACTED] Street. Harris is sitting on a couch and Klebold is sitting on an adjacent chair. The majority of the tape is taken from that position while Klebold and Harris discuss a number of different topics.

Harris and Klebold say, "Thanks to Mark John Doe, and Phil John Doe." They then go on to say, "We used them, they had no clue, if it hadn't been them, it would have been someone else over 21."

They go on to talk about Green Mountain Guns and the fact that Green Mountain Guns left a message on Harris' answering machine saying, "Your clips are in." Harris and Klebold laugh about it, and then discuss it as almost having ruined their plan.

They talk about Brandon Larson, discussing, "You will find his body." Klebold and Harris discuss bombs and make reference to "two bags" of "propane and napalm" sitting quietly. They begin discussing the shotgun and "Mr. Stevens."

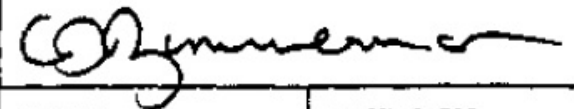
Harris and Klebold say, "We're proving ourselves." They go on to discuss philosophies. Harris states he is not spending time with his family, so there won't be any "bonding" and "this won't be harder to do." Harris states, "I'm sorry I have so much rage, but you put it on me." Harris goes on to complain about his father and the fact that they had to move five times, and that Harris

Officer Signature 		Unit K-31	Number 0174	Supervisor Initials and Date JC- 001-010377	Page 4
ORIGINAL	INVESTIGATOR	VICTIM SERVICES		OTHER	of 10
					ASAF3 4/98 JCSD/I674

was always the new kid in school, and always at the bottom of the "food chain", and had no chance to earn any respect. Harris is wearing a black t-shirt with "Wilder Wein" on the front, and Harris references his shirt several times, but does not explain what it means.

Klebold says, "Fuck you Walsh." They go on to reference "Walsh" patrolling in Deer Creek. Deputy Tim Walsh of the JCSO, does primarily work the districts on the south end of Jefferson County.

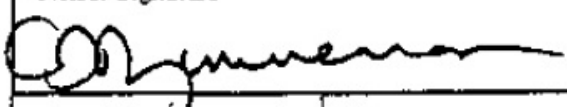
At one point Klebold and Harris make some comments about there being a "month and a half left." They again reference Green Mountain Guns and the message left on the answering machine, "Your clips are in." Harris goes on to talk about one of the times they went shooting in the mountains. Harris says his shotgun was in his "terrorist bag sticking out." Harris said he walked by his mother, but she only thought it was his pellet gun. Harris and Klebold go on to discuss several individuals. They make a comment reference a "Dustin Harris" or "Dustin Harrison," and they say, "Everything you say is pointless." They then make reference to "Nick" and say that "he laughs too much." Harris then makes some comment about "██████" and "██████" and says they are "Christianic bitches." Harris makes a reference to "shooting them in the head." Harris and Klebold then decide to video tape a tour of "Reb's room" and all the "illegal shit." They then stand up from where they had been sitting and take the camera and begin video taping Eric Harris' lower level bedroom. Harris discusses "Arlene" and talks about it being a 12 gauge Savage shotgun. They make a comment reference, "Thank's to the gun show, and to Robyn," and then they state, "Robyn is very cool." During the this time frame they were sitting on the couch and the chair, and they were drinking from what appeared to be a Jack Daniel's whisky bottle. Harris references the fact that he has the whiskey bottle. They began video taping a desk with a hutch, in Harris's bedroom. Harris points out a pair of gloves which he states he took from a doctor's office, which he uses for "making bombs." He points to numerous packages of fireworks which were on top of a speaker, also on top of the hutch. Harris points out a pop can with several shots through it and numerous shotgun shells which were sitting on the hutch. Harris points to a small "black treasure chest" and says it is a "good hiding place." Harris also points out a small bullet and references it to being his "first bullet." Harris also points out solar igniters, batteries, clocks, and pipes, in a drawer, as well as engines. Harris also pulls out "completed pipe bombs" which he describes as such, from a Home Base bag in one of the desk drawers. Harris then pulls out another Home Base bag which was in one of the drawers in the desk, and points to more pipe bombs and describes them as the "Beta batch." Klebold then discusses a "bunker." He attempts to video tape out the west window of Harris' room, although

Officer Signature 	Unit K-31	Number 0176	Supervisor Initials and Date JC- 001-010378	Page 5 of 10
ORIGINAL	INVESTIGATOR	VICTIM SERVICES	OTHER	ASA 52.108 JCSB/671

it appears to be dark outside and you cannot see anything other than the glare on the window. Klebold states there is a patch of ground, where it is buried under the dirt. Harris states there are "four mortar grenades, ten crickets, and three alfa's " Harris then points to a blue spiral notebook which he describes as his "journal." Also in the desk drawer are two "future bombs" as described by Harris and Klebold, which are clocks. They show a box of "crickets" which appear to be small CO2 cartridges. They then began video taping a dresser on the west wall of Harris' room. He opens up a door and points out a "Hell dog drawing" which is taped to the inside of that door, and references it having been given to him years ago. Next to it is a piece of paper which I recognize as an "Anarchist substitute ingredient list" which I took during the search warrant on 4-20-99 Harris also describes a "25 pound bag of #8 buckshot" which is inside that dresser, but it doesn't show up on the video tape. Harris then pulls out a box for a BB rifle , from what he describes as a hall closet. He states that is where he keeps his shotgun He then pulls a box from within the closet, within his room, and states that this is his knife and pulls it out and states that he paid \$15 for it. The knife is in a black sheath. He then states there is a "Swastika" on it. The camera zooms in where you can see what appears o be a Swastika carved into the sheath.

On the east wall of Harris' room, adjacent to a bedroom door, they point out a coil of green wire type material hanging on a wall and describe it as "50 foot of cannon fuse." They then go to a book case also on the east wall of Harris' bedroom. From there they talk about a "Demon Knight" CD, and open the case, revealing a Green Mountain Guns receipt where they purchased "nine magazines" for \$15 each. Harris then removes a rack of CD'S to reveal three pipe bombs which he describes as the "biggest." Harris then pulls out a small black card file type box and opens it and inside is what appears to be CO₂ cartridge bombs which he describes as "29 crickets." Harris then points to an area which you cannot see and states there is a "coffee can in the corner which is full of gun powder." They then video tape a black plastic box that has etched into the side of it, "explosives." This was on the north wall of Harris' bedroom on the floor. Klebold goes on to discuss how Harris' parents took it away. Harris then clarifies they only took the bomb out of it and left him with the box. Inside they video tape clock parts, fuses, tools, and CO₂ cartridges. They also video tape a white plastic file case which has "nails for pipe bombs, caps to be filled with gun powder" two boxes containing, 50 each, 9mm bullets, 12 shotgun shells in a box, another box of shotgun shells, clips for a gun, and webbing. Harris then says, "What you will find on my body in April."

JC-001-010379

Officer Signature 	Unit 831	Number 0770	Supervisor Initials and Date	Assigned To	Page 6 of 10
ORIGINAL	INVESTIGATOR	VICTIM SERVICES	OTHER	AS F3 4/98 JCSD/1674	

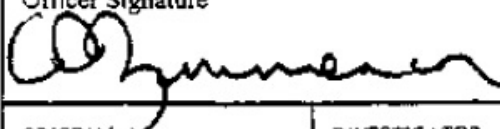
The tape is then shut off, and started again at which point Harris and Klebold are again in the lower level family room of Harris' residence. They state it is now "March 18th, in the middle of the night." They begin discussing "Echo and Delta" pipe bombs and whether or not they should put nails on them or not. They then begin discussing that "Religions are gay," and for "people who are weak and can't deal with life."

They state that they need to discuss secondary objectives to place the bombs, places that are "out of the way." Klebold then begins discussing a trail by Wadsworth, "by your old house". According to the in-house computer Eric Harris previously lived at 7844 South Teller Court. They then begin discussing that they should "rig something up with a trip bomb between two trees, so when someone goes down the path it will go off." Klebold and Harris then discuss the possibility of placing "time bombs down there." They then discuss it would be "harder and take more resources." Harris and Klebold then say "This will add a few frags to the list," and that the "fucking fire department is going to be busy for a month."

Klebold and Harris then begin discussing an individual by the name of "[REDACTED]." They then say the name "[REDACTED]." Harris then describes how he is going to "shoot [REDACTED] in the groin area." They then mention the name "Jesse Gordon" and the "Goof Troop." Harris and Klebold then begin discussing that "Nigger stopped us that day," and how black people talk in "Ebonics." They then discuss "Spics." They then discuss bowling, and how each individual in the bowling class has a designated culture group to use as a target on the bowling pins to kill and that this assists them in bowling better. Harris and Klebold discuss, "World Peace is an impossible thing." They also then discuss that you can look on the Internet and learn how to make, "bombs, poison, napalm, and how to buy guns if you're underage." They then discussed that "Mrs. X-Y-Z bought our guns."

Harris and Klebold discuss that there is "only two weeks left, and one more weekend" and that "it is coming up fucking quick." They state that the "napalm better not freeze at that certain person's house." They discuss "Chris pizza's house" as if they're trying to disguise a name. They then go on to discuss "Yoshi" in a negative fashion. They say that they need a "lot more napalm" and may just use "gas and oil." They then discuss that it will be tough and opening the zipper may make it go off, and needing some "back-ups." They discuss the sprinkler system may "put out a fire." Harris discusses, he should possibly keep the battery out of the device, set the bag, put it in and leave so it doesn't "blow up in the commons."

JC- 001-010380

Officer Signature 	Unit X-31	Number 0176	Supervisor Initials and Date	Assigned To	Page 2 of 10
ORIGINAL	INVESTIGATOR	VICTIM SERVICES	OTHER	ASAF3 4/98 JCSD/1674	

Item No	Quantity	Brand Name	Description	Serial No	Value Stolen	Value Recovered	Value Damaged
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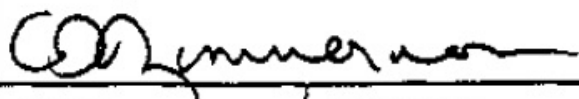
I then removed item #298 from JCSO evidence, two 8mm tapes. One of those tapes is marked "Reb's Tape." It begins with Eric Harris in the driver's seat and another male in the passenger's seat. The voice appears to be that of Dylan Klebold. They state, "We are on our way to get the rest of our gear." They state it is now "Monday, April 11th." Klebold states he has "\$200 dollars on him." Harris states that he is going to "cash a check for \$50." Klebold states that they have been "planning this for over eight months." Harris says, "At least." While they are filming this portion of the tape they are in a car during daylight hours. They pass an intersection which is known to me to be to be "Sante Fe and Mineral."

The camera is turned off and then back on again. The next scene again, is still daylight hours. The street outside I can identify as being Broadway, north of Hampden. Harris is again the driver. They are stopped at a stop light or stop sign on the east side of Broadway. Harris is now smoking a large cigar and states it is his "birthday cigar." Harris' birthday is in fact April 9th. They state they have just purchased two rather large fuel containers, three propane bottles, and Klebold also states he got his pants. The camera is then shut off again.

The camera is turned on again. Harris appears to be alone with the video camera resting either on his knee or something else, and filming directly at his face. Behind him I can see his headboard which I recognize from the search warrant at the residence on 4-20-99, as well as a bulletin board behind the headboard. Harris begins discussing his mother and father and the cops who may want to have his "parents pay". Harris describes his parents as the "best parents" and states that anything they would have tried to do this past year he would have gotten around it. Harris states, "There is no one else to blame but me and Vodka." Harris then states it's been "hard" on him recently. He states his parents have been on his "back for putting things off" such as "insurance, and the Marine Corp." He then discusses, "this is my last week on earth."

Harris says, "To you 'Culios' out there still alive, sorry I hurt you or your friends." He also discusses this is total, "KMFDM." Harris states, "There are 7 and 1/3 days left." Harris then gets an "odd" look on his face and says, "Fucking bitches." He then begins to list names: "██████████, ██████████, ██████████, ██████████ and ██████████" Harris states he is going to be "One tired mother fucker come Monday, and then Boom!" Harris stated, "I'll get shot and die."

JC- 001-010382

Officer Signature 		Unit X-31	Number 0716	Supervisor Initials and Date	Assigned To	Page 2 of 10
ORIGINAL	INVESTIGATOR	VICTIM SERVICES		OTHER		ASAF3 4/98 JCSD/1674

SUPPLEMENT		X		JCSO	ZIMMERMAN	99-7025-A		
Connecting Case Report No.				Victim Name Original Report		Date This Report 4-28-99		
Classification X FIRST DEGREE MURDER				Offense Status: Open X		Exceptionally Cleared ☐		Recommend Case: Review ☐
Reclassification ☐				Cleared by Arrest ☐		Unfounded ☐		Closure ☐
Item No	Quantity	Brand Name	Description		Serial No	Value Stolen	Value Recovered	Value Damaged

Harris goes on to film his planning book and describes it as the "Writings of God." He discusses that his beliefs have changed somewhat during the year, over the course of time he has been writing. When he turns to the page where there are figurines drawn with ammo, bombs, and guns, labeled on their persons, he states it is the "drawing of gear, back when we thought we could get calico's." He points to a picture with two, what appear to be a backpacks, labeled "napalm." He states this is the "suicide plan." He then discusses the page which appears to be inventories of bombs. He points to the top of that page and states that these are how many bullets they're going to have. Harris points to some of the drawings in the back and states they are "doom drawings." He points to some other pages which have different drawings, including different types of weapons and states that these are "plans for rocket launchers and such. Most will not see the new world." He then points to more drawings closer to the back of the notebook and states that these are "doom drawings" with a "KMFDM twist to them."

I viewed a second 8mm tape from evidence item #298. This appears to be a tape possibly made for a school project by Klebold and Harris. Klebold and Harris are visible in the tape as well as two other individuals, identified on the tape as "Browsky" and "Tex." These items were booked back into the evidence vault. The tape marked "Reb" from item #298 was copied. The original was placed back into evidence vault and the copy secured in my desk.

DISPOSITION OPEN, PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION